TOLEDO WEEKLY BLADE

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Poetry.

NOTHING.

"Blessed be nothing!" an old woman said,
As she crouched away for her daily bread.
"I am better off than my neighbor the squire:
He's afraid of robbers, afraid of fire,
Afraid of flood to wreck his mill,
Afraid of something to cross his will.
I've nothing to burn, and nothing to steal
But a bit of pork and a barrel of meal.
A house that only keeps off the rain
Is easy burnt up and built up again.
Blessed be nothing! My heart is light:
I sing at my washing, and sleep all night."

"Blessed be nothing!" the young man cried,
As he turned with a smile to his smiling bride.
"Blushes are breaking and stocks are down:
There's dread and bitterness all over town:
There are brokers groaning and bankers rail,
And men whose losses have made them mad:
There's silk and satin, but want of bread,
And many a woman would fain be dead
Whose little children sob and cling
For the daily joy she cannot bring.
Blessed be nothing, for you and me;
We have no riches on wings to flee."

Blessed be nothing! if man might choose,
For he who hath it hath naught to lose;
Nothing to fear from flood or fire,
All his use to hoard or desire.
The dream that is better than waking days,
The picture that feeds the fancy's gaze:
Better, far better, than aught we hold,
As far as mining exceeds with gold.
Or hope motion in earth below,
Or peace that is in us outward show.

Almost, when worn by weary years,
Tired with a pathway of thorns and tears,
When indeed all things that we call ill
And do know the living less than the dead,
We think that the best of mortal good
Is a painless, friendless solitude.
For the pangs are more than the peace they give,
Who make our lives so sad to live.
Blessed be nothing! it knows no tear,
Nor be the cursed called to bear its curse;
No hand to stanch me, of none bereft,
And though we have no one, yet mine is left.

Yet, having nothing, the whole is ours,
To them who pierce us who have no flowers,
And sure is the promise of His word,
They poor are blest at my spirit, Lord!
Whatever we lose of wealth or earth,
Still there is left us the heavenly river—
That heavenly fruit of a world so high,
Sorrow and coming come not nigh;
The sure and certain hope of Him
Who entered to redeem the cherubim.
Yet cure for the lonely sparrow's fall,
And is ready and eager to help us all.
Rich is His bounty to all beneath,
To the poorest and rudest the gift is Death.

Our Story Teller.

HELPS AND HINTS.

A Household Story.

CHAPTER V.

To Ellen's astonishment the saucepans were soon cleaned with the aid of the broom; those that resisted it had a tablespoonful of sand put into them, were put on the fire, and the contents boiled till the burned matter came off easily. Miss Severn took care to impress the fact upon the girl that all saucepans, excepting those in which meat had been boiled, must directly after using, be filled with cold water till the time came for their cleaning. For instance, she was told that rice, potato, corn flour, and similar things would draw on to a saucepan if cold water was not put into them, and thus time be wasted in softening it again; that all dishes having had milk puddings and pastry in them should be put into a pan of cold water, rims downwards, in order to soak off all that adhered to them, and never to use hot water for the purpose, for that only hardened it; and that a little cinder ash on a rag or a bit of sand paper would rapidly take things, will enter and keep the saucepans sweet.

"Oh, dear, there's the master, Miss Anne; and we've got no potato chips! Missis has opened the door. The fire is clear—that's a blessing."

"Now, then, for the potato chips—you have washed them?"

"I've washed the potatoes, but not the chips—there's none."

"We'll soon make some. Get a small frying pan and the lard; see that the pan is clean. Let me rub it with paper after it has been by the fire. There, you see, Ellen, the edge is not clean; the black would run down and make the potatoes dirty. It must be well washed with soda and boiling water, and be rubbed dry, particularly round the edge, to get off all the discolorations caused by milk and other matters burned on to the edge. The last process was to put the saucepans before the fire to dry, to wipe the iron covers inside and outside, and to polish the tin covers with a greasy rag, and lastly dry brick dust. Finally, Ellen was told to turn the saucepans upside down upon the saucepan rack, and to hang each cover on a nail above.

"Now, Miss Anna, to my mind the covers ought to be put on the saucepans to keep out the dust, and not to be stuck above 'em."

"You are wrong there, Ellen. Observe that the rack is open, composed of laths, each set two inches apart; now, if the saucepan is turned down on these open spaces, the air, which purifies all things, will enter and keep the saucepans sweet."

"No, the reverse of that. When it is quite silent. When fat blazes, it is because the water contained in it is being boiled out of it in the shape of steam; but if you let it remain a moment after this the fat will burn. So you must stand ready with the article you are going to fry, and put it in quickly, as I did the sliced potatoes, the pieces of potato, which will soon be converted into chips."

"Oh, my, what a lot of fat for such a few slices of potato!"

"Yes, that is true; but you see that this fat will not burn because there is so much of it, and that it will do for frying potatoes or anything else in it for six or eight times. Now get a large dish, put it before the fire with a sheet of doubled paper upon it, get also the egg-slice, that I may take up the cheeks. See, I lay them on the paper, not one on the other, but each piece separately, so that they shall be soft and pappy, but dry, and not too dry. For this reason I sprinkle a very little salt over them, and lightly put a sheet of paper over the top. Now for a nice hot dish ready to put them in at the last moment. They must not be covered, or they would be saddened. Get a pan of hot water; I am going to strain and throw the fat into it. This you will set by till it is cold, or till to-morrow, when I will look at it."

"Must lard be always used for frying everything in, Miss Anna?"

"Oh, dear, no. Any kind of dripping excepting mutton dripping will do; not that, because it so easily gets cold. But oil is the best of oils; and next to that lard or bacon dripping—oil, because it holds a greater heat than any other fat, and consequently the frying is better and quicker done. All frying should be rapidly done.

"Now you understand this, or will do so in time. Bring the parsley out of the larder. You see how I pick it, in nice sprays, and wash it, first in a basin of warm water, then instantly in cold water. Shake it about well, and throw it on this dry cloth, then spread it upon this sheet of paper. It will dry quickly; then pop it in one even on this paper, and in a few moments it will be beautifully crisp. This washing of the parsley should have been done when it first came in, not picked off the stems, because then you are able to put in a jug of water as you would flowers, and it is then ready for use in a moment."

"I never saw parsley washed before. I thought 'twas always clean."

"No vegetable is dirtier than parsley; it is full of dirt and insects, which no cold water will touch, but which is made instantly clean by the application of warm and then cold water. Look at this warm water in which the parsley was washed."

Ellen again took refuge in, "Oh, my! isn't it dirty!"

"The steak must now be cooked very quickly. Bring the gridiron, put it on the fire, make it hot, and rub it first with paper, then remove, and rub it well with a clean dish-cloth. Now put it on the fire again, and with this bit of suet rub the bars well; this is to prevent the meat sticking to the bars. I hope the steak is a tender one; if not, there is little use I have ever found in beating it.

"Now put on the steak, and the dish, in which it is to be served, before the fire. In two minutes stick the fork into the thin edge of the steak, and turn it, and again in two minutes do the same, and so continue turning every two minutes till the steak is half done."

"But what for, Miss Anna? what a fuss! Can't you let it be till 'tis done on one side, and then turn it?"

"If I were to do this all the gravy would rise to the top, and in turning would fall into the fire; but by continually turning it the gravy is kept in the centre of the meat. Now when it is half done I take it upon the dish, press it well with a knife on both sides, rub a little butter over, pepper it, and put it again on the gridiron for a few moments, turning it only once. When it is done, take it on the dish, rub a little more butter over it, then some salt, and now any sauce that is liked should be added. Not one instant must it remain after this, but be served at once; the potatos, with the crimped parsley on the top of them, hot as possible, but not covered; the steak covered. Run away with it, Ellen, and the hot plates. You say that Mrs. Newton has laid the cloth."

"Yes, Miss Anna, I saw her do it; but won't you go up and see the master?"

"To-morrow perhaps, not to-night."

Mrs. Newton came down in about an hour, and said her husband was astonished to have such a meal. "He asked who had done it. I told him that it was superior young person, whom I hoped we should be able to retain."—"Whoever it is," he said, "she understands her business much better than any lady-help would do."

"Don't you think, Miss Severn, that you had better come and see him? Will you bring up the coffee? Besides, I really don't like to ask you to stay in the kitchen; you certainly ought to sit with us for an hour or so."

"My dear Mrs. Newton, I thought it was understood fully between us that I chose to be in the kitchen; that I do not wish to interfere with, and will not interrupt the social evenings of husband and wife. I will put it in another light: I will say I have a mission in this life, and to whom is it to teach such girls as Ellen how to become good servants. I am quite sure it is easier work and less detrimental to health, than real missionary work. Moreover, I believe that the influence of Christian gentlemen upon young girls will have a better on come than all other teaching. I shall not be lowered in any way by association with Ellen. Nothing can lower my birth, education, or respectability but some unworthy action of my own. I have been industrious all my lifetime for the sake of my parents. I wish to be so now for the benefit of myself, and for what little good I may do to others needing it. I fancy that upon untrained brains the influence of education must have weight, and, as I shall be very happy in my vocation, please let me remain as I am. No kind of labor is derogatory: there can be no disgrace in it. Call me 'Anna,' and Mr. Newton will never be the wiser. Governesses are not by any means treated by young ladies and gentlemen that run to visit upon them, and yet they are well-born and well educated; and if they don't associate with servants, the latter treat them contemptuously, and such treatment cuts to the core. Better by far, in my opinion, to be a lady-help than a governess in the middle ranks of life."

"All that is true, but I wish to make your life more congenial with your duties."

"It is very kind of you, but I prefer to be as I am. Habits to which one is early accustomed are never laid aside whether they be civilized or otherwise. The coffee I will show Ellen how to make, and bring it up myself."

So, with this, Mrs. Newton departed, but could not help feeling what a useless weight she herself had always been, waited upon by servants, and knowing not a single thing of domestic management. "Yet here is one thing," she mentally said, "I can learn, and I will. I wonder if Miss Severn sings and plays. I dare say she does. She looks as if she knew everything."

As soon as Ellen had cleaned the table in the dining room, Miss Severn said, "Now, then, for the coffee. Get me the coffee-pot and the coffee. I want both the tin coffee-pot and the silver one."

Ellen brought the ground coffee. It had been ground a week previously, as Ellen remarked, because it was handier than to be always fussing at the mill.

"Have you no whole coffee, Ellen? This is dead and flavorless."

"Oh, yes, there's a lot in this tin."

Miss Severn took a teacupful from it and put it on a plate in the oven till it was warm through, then put it in the mill and ground it, and the aromatic fragrance diffused itself all over the kitchen. Upon this, when put into a hot tin coffee-pot, she poured a little more than two breakfast-cups of boiling water, then rapidly poured out into the teacup and back into the coffee-pot twice, then set for five minutes by the side of the fire, but not where it could boil, or the sides of the coffee-pot burn. Within ten minutes the coffee, pure as wine, was poured into the very hot silver coffee pot, over which a "cosey" was placed, and it was thus taken up, with hot milk scalded in a jug placed in boiling water.

"I always boil the milk in a saucepan," said Ellen.

"I should think it was never drunk after; it must have been greasy, and with a taste of the saucepan."

"Master never did drink it; perhaps he won't yours."

Miss Severn took the coffee on a much discolored silver tray, knocked at the door, and entered with the coffee, which she laid before Mrs. Newton, who half rose to meet her, but, recollecting herself, sat down again. Mr. Newton looked up furtively from his book, but took no further notice till after Miss Severn left the room. Presently he said, "This young person of yours knows how to make coffee. I wonder in what school of cookery she has graduated. Her face somehow seems familar to me."

No suspicion crossed his mind as to "the young person's" antecedents. Miss Severn answered to the kitchen, to the washing up, and the cleaning of the copper saucepan. It required many kind and cheering words and much personal help to bring Ellen to the close of the first day without littering the kitchen, and over the saucepan it was almost a case of tears. The vinegar, rotten stone, and oil were there, but the willingness to clean was gone.

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"To-morrow perhaps, not to-night."

"Do let me leave it till to-morrow, Miss Anna. I am so tired."

"I would not leave it till to-morrow, Ellen. Don't you see it has been left by some one for so many 'to morrows,' till the labor of cleaning falls upon you and myself, and between this and to-morrow somebody might be poisoned with the verdigris; and we, having knowingly left it about, might be accused of having done it wilfully. Then what would happen? The work, whatever it may be that we don't like to do, had always best be done at once, and then there is one less trouble for us."

"But I am so tired, Miss Ellen."

"Well, let us do the work, and I will tell you a story about some very industrious little bodies, without whose aid you could not properly clean that saucepan."

"Oh, my! I've heard tell of the fairies. The pixies my mother calls 'em. I wish they'd clean the dirty thing."

"Neither the fairies nor the pixies. Wash the saucepan first with vinegar, and scrub it well. Then rub it well with oil, every crevice, and then for the 'pixies.' Take up the rotten-stone. Now, what do you think that is?"

"It looks like dirt; I suppose it is."

"No. Rub the saucepan well and listen. That rotten-stone was once alive. It is the dead skins or coverings of millions of little creatures that had to work daily and nightly for their living, as you now do daily."

Ellen looked at the rotten-stone aghast. "Miss Anna, you're making fun; it's too bad, I didn't think you would tell me such nonsense.'

"I tell you, my girl, what I say is truth, or, rather, the cleverest men we have say it is so. There are several kinds of this polishing material, formed of the dead coverings of insects which have a hard, flinty shell upon their backs, and when they died the shells were left, but could not perish with their bodies, because these shells which we cannot see without a microscope—they are so small—were formed of a flinty material that cannot perish. There is a kind of polishing earth found in Prussia, in a square inch of which there are nearly two billion of shells of insects. Now, if you were to count one, two, three, and so on for two years, night and day, and not cease a moment, you could not count that number.

"These little creatures work hard enough in their day, and now their dead bodies are of the greatest use to mankind. Never was any living thing sent into this world to be idle. Tired sometimes, but always to begin again, and their labors ever for the good of others. Savages, you know, work only for themselves, and they remain savages to the end of their lives; but if you would be noble you must labor for others, else it will be never said to you, 'Well done, thou good and faithful servant.' You must serve, or the word 'servant' would not be used; and in serving others, you are also serving yourself and your God. Better be tired and weary with work than tired with weariness born of idleness."

Poor Ellen looked as if some little spark of intelligence had entered her brain, for she glanced from her work to Miss Severn with a respect or reverence which she had not before shown, and said:—

"O Miss Anna, how could you learn all this?"

"By reading and remembering, and so learning. If you only learn one thing every day, you will know 365 things in place; it must be cleaned every week to keep it sweet and free from verdigris."

Ellen took up the rotten-stone, examined it closely, and again asked, "Was it really once alive?"

"Yes, be sure that it was. You have seen mites in a cheese which do not look alive?"

"Yes; but they are though, for some of 'em come to hoppers, little white worms that hop about."

"Then you can have an idea of how thousands and millions of living creatures can be contained in a small space."

"But what work can these mites in the rotten-stone do?"

"They are not mites in the stone, but the stone itself is nothing but the dead bodies of these mites, as you call them. The work they found to do was to eat on such up all the flint they found in the water in which they existed, and so nourished their bodies with it, that when dead their outer covering or shells became useful to man, including yourself. We won't talk any more about this now, but after washing up the supper things we will have our supper, then, just a short prayer, and to bed."

"I always say my prayers in bed," said Ellen.

"You can say your prayers in bed if you like, but it is certainly not the proper way to lift up your heart to God. If you had to ask the blessing of the Queen upon your endeavors, would you go and lie on the sofa in her presence, and ask it?"

"Of course not, Miss Anna; how funny you do put it!"

"Is not God, who sees all, hears all, more to be feared than the Queen!"

"No, because she would have me punished, and God never punishes me for saying my prayers in bed."

"But are your prayers ever granted, or can you reasonably expect a blessing when your requests are so carelessly made?"

"Why, prayers are not requests."

"I think you know very little about prayers, Ellen; we will talk about this at some future time. Let us wash up the dirty things, and make the kitchen tidy; no litter, mind, everything in its place; but you must first have a place for everything, and I don't think you have that. Your brushes and brooms are thrown down everywhere, your clothes are in confusion, dirty and clean together, and your cupboards are all untidy. We must find proper places to-morrow for all these things; meantime you wash up the plates in hot and cold water, while I will the silver and the glasses."

"Why must I have hot and cold water both? Why won't hot water do?"

"Because, if the plates are put while hot into cold water, any dirt that sticks to them comes off, or remains on so visible that in a moment you can see whether they are clean or not. This rinsing also saves you the trouble of wiping cups and saucers. They are better turned upside down only rinsed, then wiped on a dirty cloth—a practice too often followed. Now you will wash your hands, arms and face, put on a clean apron, and we will have supper. I will lay the cloth, if I know where to find it. You will bring me four clean knives and some plates."

"Shall I get the cold meat, and draw some beer?"

"No cold meat and no beer; bread and butter, or cheese and some cold water."

"But, Miss Anna, you can have beer; missus always allows it."

"But I don't allow it to myself, Ellen; there is no need of it, and I am sure you don't need it. Just look here, my girl; a half pint of beer is a penny a day, sevenpence a week, or one pound ten shillings and fourpence a year. What wages do you get?"

"I get eight pounds a year, and I'm to get ten if I improve."

"You get enough; but I'm quite sure if I ask Mrs. Newton that she will now increase your wages to nine pounds ten shillings a year if you will only give up drinking beer. Why, it is nearly a quarter's wages in a year that you drink. See what clothes you can buy for that sum! Or, if you don't need clothes, have you not only in your family to whom 30 shillings a year would be a help? or you could put the sum weekly into a savings bank; but to drink it! What can be more senseless than thus to throw away 30 shillings a year?"

"Why, I never thought of that. Is seven pence a week, 30 shillings a year? Oh, my!"

"Yes, 30 shillings a year. And if you had beer twice a day, you would spend more than three pounds a year."

"Well, Miss Anna, if you won't drink beer, I'm sure I won't. I can do without it, if you can."

"Try the plan, and I'm sure you won't regret it; only, Ellen, you must ask in prayer for strength to be given you to keep to your resolutions; for if you have always been accustomed to drink beer, you will find yourself often tempted to have it again."

Ellen made no reply. She thought it an easy matter, this abstaining from drink.

At the supper table Miss Severn directed Ellen to ask God's blessing—a thing the poor girl had never thought of. She taught her also to eat her food in a pleasant, nice manner; no biting of her bread, no cutting it on the cloth, no putting her knife in her mouth.

"How very particular you are, Miss Anna! I'm not a lady, as I'm sure you are, although you do come here to work."

"What constitutes a lady, Ellen? Is it fine clothes, or plenty of money, or anything else but good manners and habits? I have neither fine clothes nor money, yet you call me a lady. Now, you are quite as capable of being a gentlewoman as I am, if you will have it so. I saw you push before Mrs. Newton today, instead of standing back and allowing her to pass you. A so-called lady would be considered very rude and ill-bred if she were to do this. Then why can't you adopt the manners of a gentlewoman, 'being courteous and in honor preferring one another?' which means that you must give way to your neighbors, preferring to give honor to them rather than to take it yourself. As I said just now, manners and habits are the only sure marks of a well or ill-bred person."

Just then Mrs. Newton came into the kitchen with a glass of brandy and water, and some cake, and offered it to Miss Severn, who declined taking it, saying, "I never drink anything but water, except tea and coffee."

"But oblige me by taking a little of it. I shall think it so unfriendly if you do not."

"I must beg to be excused, not only now, but always, and even at the risk of displeasing you, for I never take anything of that kind. I am glad to say that Ellen is disposed to give up her beer, if you will kindly add to her wages the money it now costs, which, she tells me, is seven pences a week, for I have been saying to her that thirty shillings a year is worth saving."

"Dear me! does it come to so much? I never thought of it before. Oh, yes, I will give her the money with pleasure, but will pay with her wages, for I fear if she gets it weekly the money will soon be spent."

Ellen looked as if she did not quite like this arrangement, but was rather astonished to hear Mrs. Newton say:

"My dear Miss Severn, if you will only let me do something to make you more comfortable, I shall be so pleased. What can I do for you?"

"Nothing in the world. I am perfectly comfortable, and if Ellen does not tire of the monotony of the work, we shall get on very well together."

"What's that?" thought Ellen, as she left the kitchen. "I shall look out for the monotony."

"If you would kindly tell me at what hour you would like breakfast, and what you will have cooked, it will save time in the morning, and Ellen and I will know what to do."

"Mr. Newton breakfasts at eight o'clock. I ordered some whiting, and suppose they have come; he would like also a rasher of bacon and some scrambled eggs. But you and I can have our breakfast when he is gone to his chambers."

"Miss Severn looked pained as she said, "I wish my dear lady, you would be good enough to let me remain altogether in the kitchen. If I am to stay with you it must be so. I cannot come and sit with you, but of course you will come here at any time, and I do wish it to be clearly understood that I and Ellen will always take our meals together. I have not the slightest objection to wait upon Mr. Newton and yourself, or your friends, I cannot in the least see that I am losing caste in any way; on the contrary, I feel that being of use is infinitely pre erable to droning my life out. I must work for my bread as thousands better born than myself are obliged to do, and I neither see nor feel disgrace in the matter. So, from this hour, I take up my position in your house as a useful help, and none the less a lady. Without such a girl as Ellen I could not get on at all. I could not carry on, because I am not strong enough; I could not clean steps because it is outside work in a civilized place; but even that I would not object to if dire necessity compelled me, but it does not, and I choose to go where a young servant is kept, rather than to a place where there is none. If you let things go on in the manner I wish them to do, all will be well. I will be your lady-help; but if not, the very unpleasantness and inconvenience of standing on debatable ground, not knowing my place in a house, will make me very uncomfortable."

Mrs. Newton said no more; the brandy and water and cake were left, and wishing Miss Severn and Ellen good night, she went to bed.

The brandy and water was thrown away. The cake was held out as a reward to Ellen for the next day's obedience. The cleaning of the kitchen progressed all was in order. Then the doors and fastenings of the windows underwent examination, the sink-traps were made tight, and a weight put over each to prevent any odor from rising in the night; and when all was secure both sat down, and Miss Severn read the third verse from the sermon on the Mount, "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

"Now, I want you to learn that verse, Ellen, and on Sunday I will try to explain to you."

In a very few words, Miss Severn, kneeling, with Ellen at her side, asked forgiveness of the All-Father who is ever present, asked for a blessing, asked for protection from evil thoughts and from calamities which might befall them in the night, and, finally, commending the whole household to God's care, she rose, and shaking Ellen by the hand, wished her good night. And so ended the first day's work of the lady-help.

CHAPTER VI.

To Miss Severn the morning brought with it not only a sense of new duties dependent upon herself for performance, but also, while she was dressing, the question came, Could she persist in this novel and, to her, untried work?

She had an earnest desire to benefit her fellow-creatures: to be a Christian woman, not one who would wrap her talents in a napkin and be content to bear the name of Christian. From her earliest years she had been taught to take Christ as an example of self-sacrifice and of active good teaching. To be a follower of Christ seemed something more to her than making one at religious meetings and assemblies, and thus strictly following the "letter of the law." The "spirit of the law" to her was to do good in season and out of season—to help those who needed in whatever way was best for them. Money she had none, but the good teaching she had received she could impart to others, and therein her "mission" lay. She did not believe in the idleness of repeating long prayers, or in reading whole chapters in the Bible, but in any emergency or difficulty, or blessing granted, her heart instantly went up to God in prayer or thankfulness. And thus Anna Severn argued: "The God who through my little has ordered all my ways, and turned my griefs into blessings, will, if I trust Him, keep me to the end. Here have I been set down, and here I will do my best to serve my God in helping and serving others."

Presently the bugbear of "caste" rose up before her, and she thought, "Supposing I meet guests here with whom I have been intimate, what then?" It must be confessed that here, as she afterwards told me, a choking in the throat and a partial revulsion of courage arose. "Can I serve where I have been equal? I am most intensely proud, and am certainly poor,—incompatibilities decidedly. Pride is a vice, and poverty a misfortune. Shall I succumb to vice? Not quite!"—"But there is a proper pride, you know," suggested the tempter.

"Well, pride is self-satisfaction in having things better than others, whether it be beauty or wealth or position, name or fame, and there is also a pride in well-doing, which is by no means a wholesome pride. Pride without principle is a baleful heritage. There is no disgrace in the work I have commenced here. When prosperity waned, many of my friends showed me 'the cold shoulder,' as is customary. What grief should this cause me? It is but the natural sifting of the wheat from the chaff. There are some, and these are my father's men friends, to whom I am always the same—always myself—and they have encouraged me in this action. It is only a lot of chattering young women, too idle to do anything as bread-winners, except it be fancy-work in a dark corner, which acquaintances are to know nothing about, and by which they are half-starved, while households such as this are holding out money, food, and clothes, with free and liberal hands. There is a dignity in skillful labor guided by intelligence; but a sad and depressing annoyance to both mistress and maid arises from mechanical toil which sees not the why, which finds no satisfaction in duties properly performed, or, indeed, which knows not how properly to do anything.

"There is mission work enough—in England, at any rate—for thousands of well-trained girls in household duties, if only they will cast away that troublesome demon False Pride, *always* setting up an imaginary barrier to sound, wholesome employment. Mission work, by which untaught young servants shall be trained to good habits, and unskilful mistresses may, if they will, receive profitable instruction also. At all events, I will have no false pride in the matter and none of that Diogenes, who, when treading on the rich furniture of Plato, said, 'I trample on the pride of Plato.' Plato justly answered, 'But with greater pride.'"

This musing was brought to an end by the ringing of a factory bell, betokening that the hour of 6 had struck. There was more than ordinary ferventness in Miss Severn's prayer that morning to be kept from pride and to have protection and help through the day. Then she tapped at Ellen's door, which was near to hers, for, as she knew, it is the nature of most young girls to sleep heavily when not subjected to school or business discipline.

Ellen had undoubtedly been untrained to any method in her work, for when Miss Severn came into the kitchen the fire was kindled and in a few minutes went out. Miss Severn, with kind manner and voice, said, "Let me show you how to build a fire. Take out all your coals into the scuttle, brush the soot out of the chimney, and sweep out the grate as gently as possible. Don't make a dust; much noise and much dust mace in work show the worker to be unskilful. Now with black-lead brush rub the grate and bars till they shine. At the bottom of the grate put a layer of cinders, then pieces of small coal, upon that the paper, and then about 10 sticks, laid five one way and five across, but not with the ends sticking out of the grate—a plan of no uss whatever. Now put some small pieces of coal, about the size of walnuts on the top. Then set light to the paper, and in a few minutes, if the sticks are dry, you will have a good fire. When you want to boil only a kettle of water, you must grind the grate close and build the fire to nearly the top of the grate. Then the moment the coal catches fire, the kettle may be placed over the top, not on it, and it will quickly boil. But if you want the water in the boiler to boil readily, then the fire must be built low down, and nearly to the breadth of the grate. The quantity of coal burned is, in both ways, much the same. When the fire is burned through to some degree, throw on more cinders, and small coal on the top to hide them; and what you can't use, put in the scuttle to be mixed with small coal. Take up the fine ashes, not by scraping them up with a shovel, making a disagreeable noise, but by sweeping them into it, and put them in the dust-tin, on the sifter, that they may be afterwards sifted. Those rocking sifters are capital for preventing dirty work. Now sweep and hearthstone the hearth or rub it with the black-lead brush, and scour the fender and sweep the kitchen. You can only slightly do this in the early morning, for just after dinner is the right time to thoroughly clean it. There are now the sitting rooms to be cleaned and dusted, the stairs and hall to sweep, mate to be shook, and the outside steps to clean, and you and I have to do it all before nine o'clock; and as Mr. Newton breakfasts at eight, we must get the dining-room finished first. You shall make the fire, and I will sweep the rooms. I am going to sweep and dust the stairs, while you make the fire, black lead the grate, and scour the fire irons, and what else is needful to be scoured. Let us take up all the brushes and dusters that we need, and your housemaid's box. See that you have in it, all in order, black-lead brushes and black-lead, brick-dust, grated fine, in an old saucer, some rags for dusting the grate and hearth, and that small round brush I see in the box for dusting the corners. There is your dustpan and mine to take up; your thick cloth for laying down before the fire-place. I see that Mrs. Newton does not at night wrapper the furniture, but as the plan keeps furniture clean for years longer than otherwise, I shall ask her to adopt it.

"I think you are not attending to me, Ellen. Get together each thing as I tell you. You will soon understand better, and what is now difficult to you will by habit become easy. We must manage to collect our tools in the evening instead of the morning."

"Well, Miss Anna, I never did see any one so very particular. Why, we don't have wrappers and such things. The missus might give 'em to you, but she wouldn't to me."

"Because you wouldn't keep them clean. Where is the cloth for laying before the fire-place, that you may not kneel on the carpet, or put your box and brushes on it? Let us see if we can find something; if not we can lay down these old newspapers. They will do for once."

This make-shift succeeded. The carpet hitherto so ill used was now screened from further injury. The dining-room door was shut to prevent noise, and Ellen was left to her work. When Miss Severn had noiselessly swept the stairs, using a small round brush for the corners, slipping the rods to remove the dirt underneath and then placing them back with each end exactly at equal distance from the stair-eyes, she found that Ellen had only carelessly accomplished her task, and resolved that she would stand by while the girl was cleaning the other grates, mentally saying that neither once nor twice, nor perhaps twenty times, would suffice to get the girl perfect in her work.

Miss Severn, having covered up the sofa and turned the chairs one seat on the other now with a long thin American broom began to sweep the carpet *from* the corners into the centre of the room.

"Why, Miss Anna, what are you doing? That's not the way to sweep; you should sweep the dirt out to the door—"

"And into the corners, and out on the mat which lies at the door, where it should not be," replied Miss Severn. "My plan is to sweep out the corners first; the dirt is sure to be taken from the middle of the room, but then corners are difficult to clean after the dirt has been swept into them, and, in endeavoring to get it out, the skirting board is knocked and injured; so that I prefer my simpler and cleaner plan to yours, Ellen. I have no doubt I may learn a good deal from you; but when I show you that my plan is the best, you will I am sure, adopt it."

"Of course, Miss Anna, it stands to reason that your plan is the best, now you tell me why you do it, but I never saw it done before. I've always seen it brushed into the passage, and taken up when the passage is swept."

"If it be not taken up at once, even in the passage, you know it would be trampled upon and brought into the room or be dragged elsewhere. I have seen this done frequently. It was an excellent servant from whom I learned how to sweep a room."

"I thought young ladies only learned to play the pianner, and sing and all them sort of things. I didn't know they learned to work like servants."

"Young ladies, Ellen, when they are well trained by their mothers, are supposed not only to sing and play, but also to understand all household work, including sweeping, dusting, cooking, washing and ironing, and much other useful work; else, my girl, how do you suppose they could, when mistresses, teach their servants? We will talk hereafter about this. You now sweep the hall clean. When you come to the first step don't brush the dirt down the stairs to make other places dirty, but take it up in the dust-pan, and be sure with the small brush to clean the corners of the stairs; the baluster brush won't clean them. I will now open the window—after sweeping, mind, not before—and while the dust is settling will see that the kettle is near boiling, and set the breakfast things; and when I have dusted the room you shall learn to cook the breakfast."

"But I can dust the room—I shall have time," said Ellen.

"Very well; sweep the hall first." This done, Ellen came with her duster, and began first to pull off the wrappers, and in a second to flick, with the struggling duster in her hand, the dust from one place to another. Here Miss Severn entered and asked, 'What are the wrappers for, Ellen, if not to screen the furniture from the dust? Then keep them on till the room is dusted. Remove them only when the dust is all taken off and the rug is shaken and laid down. Look here, Ellen, gather up the thickest of the dust in the duster and shake it out of the window; open only enough for you to put out your hand, otherwise the dust will fly back into the room. When you have done this two or three times you may then dust away without driving the dust to settle in some other place. We will leave the drawing room till after breakfast, and when you have dusted the hall and swept the steps, the master's boots have to be cleaned."

"Oh, no, Miss Anna, master don't wear the same boots every day. I don't clean them till by and by."

"Pleasanter for you that this is the case, Ellen. Some gentlemen have their boots cleaned every morning before breakfast; but if you call the boots bright which I saw at the dressing room door, then Mr. Newton cannot be very particular about the matter."

"I cleaned 'em as I've been showed. I blacked 'em and let 'em dry before I polished 'em. I cleaned 'em as I do the grates."

"Ah! that's wrong; boots must be polished while the blacking is a little wet; grates when the black lead is nearly dry. But you will learn to do them in time. Take up the shaving water, and knock at Mr. Newton's door; then wash your face and hands, put on a clean apron, come to me and we will lay the cloth on the table."

"I can do that, if you will let me."

"Very well, when you have done what I told you come to me. There is an art in laying the cloth and I want to make you a perfect little servant if you won't break down in the teaching."

Ellen rapidly made her appearance, being neither over clean nor neat; but Miss Severn wisely forbore to find fault; she thought it better to be blind to some failings than to be too exacting—felt it was not judicious to strain the cord too tight. In a moment the girl had dragged the cloth from the sideboard drawer, and had opened it, and was flinging it on the table, causing a great commotion in the air, and the cloth to be placed awry.

"Not so, Ellen; let us fold it again. Now, then, place half of the cloth on the half of the table we have it quite smooth, and lay open the other half over the remaining side of the table. Thus, you see, you disturb no one, supposing any one to be in the room, and the cloth is at once smooth. After you have practiced this a dozen times you will remember. Go down for the tray of breakfast things; the fire is burning brightly, and everything looks comfortable."

In a few moments Ellen appeared with the tray, and laid the knives and forks on the table in so unobservant a fashion, with the handles sticking out over the side of the table, that whoever passed moved them slanting on it, and this at once gave a disordered and untidy appearance. Miss Severn put the handles even and about an inch from the edge, and called Ellen's attention to the matter. We need not say that such small but by no means trifling matters had not escaped the latter, however, the hope that "patience brings its perfect work," consoled for much repetition of instruction.

The breakfast was then proceeded with. The writing, which had been cleaned and floured the night before, were now dry and needed no egg or bread crumbs. The pan was delicately clean; the bacon was first fried and kept warm. The fat to fry the fish was the same that had been used for the sole, with a small quantity in addition, but there was plenty. When the hissing fat was quite still the fish were put in and allowed to remain till they were brown and stiff enough to lie without breaking across a knife. They were then turned and browned on the other side,

THE WEEKLY BLADE.

TOLEDO BLADE CO., Publishers.

TOLEDO, O., THURSDAY, FEB. 13, 1879

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As is the invariable custom in all newspaper offices, a subscription year is reckoned as FIFTY-TWO WEEKS.

THE Buffalo *Express* thinks "it is a good year for stalwarts."

BRAGG is an unfortunate name for the South. Their General of that name did them, as they would say, "Heaps o' damage."

EVERY Democratic Senator that voted, voted against Sen. EDMUNDS' resolution affirming the validity of the Constitutional Amendments.

SIR STAFFORD NORTHCOTE, the British Chancellor of the Exchequer, recently made his appearance as a public reader at a church festival.

Spectator Item: "Yes, I'm a good dancer," said the barber as he sheared off the blonde locks of a customer. "See me clip the light fantastic tow."

MISS ANTHONY defines marriage as "binding oneself out to one man for board and clothes." Well, how much better is the man's side of the bargain?

THE Government can do nothing that will promote the prosperity of the working classes so much as to issue a $10 bond and place it on sale at every Postoffice.

RENO was "very much excited"; he fired his revolver at the Indians when they were 1,000 yards away, but his fellow officers do not think that he was drunk.

THE report that JOE JEFFERSON is spending the Winter in Louisiana alarms his friends as to the condition of his veracity when he emerges in the Spring.

IN some things we have not progressed. A couple of centuries ago the Presbyterians would have had but little trouble with TALMAGE—if the ax was in good order.

VICE PRESIDENT WHEELER for years has been accustomed to give $500 to Home missions, but this year, on account of the debt of the board, he doubled the amount, and sent a check for $1,000.

DIVORCES are as easily obtained in Switzerland as in Indiana. This enables a gallant Switzer to test his lady friends, one after another, until he finds one docile enough about getting up in the morning to build the fires.

EVANS the fire-eating Charleston *News* says that "in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred, the claimants are traitors, spies, or liars; and there is no excuse for a Southern Democrat advocating them, except that the money will indirectly benefit his section by being spent there."

AUSTRIA can't float 200 million dollars of paper money anywhere near the title mark of specie payment—nor has she done so for 125 years. Consequently Austria is next to Russia, the poorest and most backward of the great nations of Europe.

THE Democrats strained every nerve to avoid coming to a vote on Sen. EDMUNDS' resolution affirming the validity and rightfulness of the last three amendments to the Constitution, but he held them to the text in the most masterly way, and at last secured the passage of the resolution.

TILDEN ratting SMITH WEED about making the proposition to the South Carolina Canvassing Board, and saying that he never would consent to become President by any such means, was a very pretty piece of acting, but, considering that it took place after the negotiations had completely failed, it was somewhat filmy in texture.

THE flings at ZACH CHANDLER are of the cheap and flimsy sort. Mr. CHANDLER has brains, honesty, and earnestness of purpose enough to furnish forth the intellectual equipment of half-a-dozen of the milk-sop "statesmen" that these enemies of CHANDLER so much admire. Mr. CHANDLER'S Republicanism is of the kind that amounts to something for the country.

CONVERSATION in a saloon not far from the Capitol grounds, just after BRAGG'S speech, between two Confederate Brigadiers:

"Be Gawd, sah, did you evah heah the like? Actually has the audacity, sah, to get up on the flo', sah, and tell us what *he* thinks is right. We-uns are the ones to tell him what's right, and what he must do."

"The l-d e-a! These Nawthen Democrats will soon be no bettah than Black Republicans. We must sit down on 'em. Deah me! Things have changed since the wah! Then no Nawthener though of doing anything without finding out first whether it was agreeable to the gentlemen of the South. What'll you have, Mejah?"

RESULT OF IGNORANCE AND NEGLECT.

"Where ignorance is bliss, 'tis folly to be wise," sang the poet; but experience shows that the cases in which lack of knowledge has produced untold misery far outnumbers those of the opposite character. Russia has but one school to every 3,670 inhabitants, consequently a large mass of people are groping in dense ignorance and are incapable of judging correctly in many of the most common affairs of life. When a crisis like that brought upon them by the appearance of the plague in their midst requires prompt action, it is very hard to make them understand its necessity. The precautions which reason teaches should be taken to prevent the spread of the disease, the remedies that science has discovered to be best, all seem useless to their stupid minds, and they cannot be induced to yield to higher intelligence only so far as compelled by arbitrary authority.

When the plague, brought by the Cossacks returning home from service in Bulgaria, first broke out, it could easily have been mastered. Had the same thing occurred in England, Germany, France, or this country, with the terrible teachings of the past in view, every effort would have been put forth, both by the civil officers and the people, to crush it out as soon as possible. In Russia, on the contrary, no notice was taken of it until the inhabitants of large districts were swept away, and in the villages the dead were lying rotting upon the streets because there were not enough left alive to bury them. Those who could get away fled only to carry the contagion elsewhere.

When this condition of things was reached the Government aroused itself to the consciousness that some decided steps must be taken, and it is now reaching out for the most effective means to do what ought to have been done in the beginning. Burning villages and depopulated hamlets tell the story of the ignorance and neglect which has made such terrible remedies necessary. The fact that England, the hated enemy of the Russian Empire, whose advances towards the acquiring of more power in Asia the latter has done all in its power to hinder, has been called upon for assistance, shows how desperate is the crisis. If England answers the call, as it is probable she will, and the rest of the European countries take the preventive measures inaugurated by Germany and Austria, the ravages of the disease may be confined to Russia. It is to be hoped that the present experience of that empire will teach it the lesson it should have learned years ago, from similar visitations.

Though the spread of the plague may be checked, its effect upon commerce will be felt for a long time all through Europe. This is the more to be regretted as it comes at a time when trade is depressed, and the most favorable conditions are necessary for its speedy revival.

TROUBLE AHEAD.

Brother TALMAGE has come to grief with the Presbytery. That staid and dignified body does not approve of his expeditions of discovery into the haunts of vice, his sensational pulpit utterances, and his general disregard of the spirit of Presbyterian doctrine, if not of its forms. The dissatisfaction of the reverend gentlemen culminated Monday afternoon in a meeting called to take action on the matter of disciplining the fiery pulpit orator. He was present, and rather stirred up things by a demand for an investigation then and there, as he was ready to answer any questions.

It was, however, after an excited discussion, referred to a Committee who will proceed to look into matters and report accordingly. Brother TALMAGE will probably be obliged to keep himself within bounds hereafter, or else spread his wings on an independent flight, steering his own course without any clipping of his wings by the Presbytery.

In return for some remarks made at a recent installation of a new pastor, in which severe reflections were made upon ministers who turned themselves into mountebanks in the pulpit, he fired off the following gun into the ranks of his critics, which wounded several:

Now, my dear critical brethren of the clergy, I wish you all prosperity. You, for instance, are metaphysical. May you succeed in driving people into heaven by raising a great fog on earth. You are severely logical. Hook the people into glory by the horns of a dilemma. You are anecdotal. Charm the people to truth by capital stories well told. You are illustrative. Twist all the flowers of the field and all the stars of heaven into your sermon. You are classical. Wield the club of Hercules for the truth, and make Parnassus bow to Calvary. Your work is not so much in the pulpit as from house to house by pastoral visitation. The Lord go with you as you go to take tea with the old ladies, and hold the children on your lap, and tell them how much they look like their father and mother. [Laughter.] Stay all the afternoon and evening, and if it is a damp night, stay all night. [Laughter.]

WINE PRODUCTION OF CALIFORNIA.

California is a wonderful country. Prolific as it is in precious metals, its soil seems no less fruitful in the treasures that grow each season, the waving grain, the luscious fruits, and the nutritious vegetables. New industries are constantly developing, calling enterprising business men from all parts of the country to the Pacific shore, which has been in the past, and will doubtless be in the future, a veritable "golden gate" to many whose energy and industry can make it swing upon its hinges.

Among other things, grape growing for the manufacture of wine has been largely and successfully entered into. This year the State produces 7,000,000 gallons of the juice, with the promise of a constant increase. Many different varieties of foreign grapes have been introduced, and grow well, making a wine fully equal to that manufactured from the product of their native soil.

Californians claim that the great wine growing territory of America, in the future, is to be their State and possibly a portion of Arizona, and the area of the part where the best quality of grapes grows is no larger than the wine districts of France. Whether this be so or not, it is certain that many kinds of this fruit grow there well, and yield largely.

THE investigation of the right of BUTLER, the acting Senator from South Carolina, to a seat, is one of those ponderous bits of nonsense that the Senate sometimes delights in. BUTLER has no more right to a seat in the Senate than a burglar has to the occupancy of a house into which he has broken, but there is not the slightest prospect that the Senate will do anything towards establishing this fact, or towards turning him out—neck and heels—from the place he has usurped.

WADDINGTON AND FRANCE.

The new Premier of France, W. H WADDINGTON is of English parentage, but was born in Paris, in 1826. He was educated at Cambridge where he graduated in 1849, and returning to France, became a naturalized citizen of that country. His active public life began in 1865, since which time he has been in constant service, and discharged his duties in a way to win the respect of his people, and of other nations. Even BISMARCK considers him one of the ablest among living diplomats.

Although not the author, as has been asserted, of the present Republican Constitution of France, he is yet one of the prominent leaders of that party. Moderate, but decided in his views, his influence will do much towards strengthening the Republic into a permanent form, and give it that stability which it has hitherto seemed to lack. A Protestant himself, and married to a Protestant wife, he will act as a check upon the Catholic power, which is constantly devising revolutionary schemes to bring back the old order of things. The cause of civil and religious liberty will be promoted by his influence in the Government.

The political condition of France seems now to promise no hindrance to her advancement to permanent prosperity. Her great present drawback is her extreme Free Trade doctrines which are the result of her treaties with foreign nations. Although her revenues are constantly increasing—the taxation in 1878 upon articles of consumption alone reaching the enormous sum of 2,626,000,000 francs, demonstrating the great wealth and vitality of the country—yet the same year the imports exceeded those of the year before by 791,000,000 francs, while the sale of her own goods were 67,000,000 less. Political economists there recognize the fact that this showing is due to her extreme free trade principles, and notice has been given that on the 1st of next January she will hold herself free to make new treaties of commerce in place of those by which she is now controlled.

A NOVEL EXPEDIENT.

British Columbia has discovered a way of solving a vexed political question which is rather peculiar. Chinese immigration has been agitating the souls of the people there as here, and a strong public sentiment developed against it. They do not, however, pass a law prohibiting the landing of more than a given number upon their shores from a single vessel. Just as many as each ship can carry may go there, but having already declared all Chinese ports infected, upon the entrance of their vessels into any Columbian harbor, it is proposed to subject them to the most rigorous quarantine. This will, of course, involve a long delay in landing, and it is expected that the Celestials, patient and long enduring as they are, will, at last, grow weary, and seek some other land flowing with milk and honey, into which they may enter without so much trouble.

It is a hard state of things for the long queued brownies. When they wanted to be let alone and stay in behind closed doors as they had done for thousands of years, the so called civilized world beat and banged at these barriers until they were thrown open. The few Chinamen who made their exit, finding the outside air agreeable and wholesome, told their fellows of the fact, and the latter swarmed forth to make the most of this change in their circumstances. It seems, however, that it was not expected that they would come out, but the outsiders must be let in. The Celestials are supposed to stay at home to receive visitors, and not go abroad for entertainment. If they do, doors are slammed in their faces in a way more decided than courteous. This is a queer world.

ONLY TEMPORARY.

It does not yet seem to be definitely settled whether Great Britain will finally prohibit the importation of American cattle into that country or not. The truth is the whole movement is the result of jealousy upon the part of dealers there, whose profits are so largely diminished by the selling of beef from this country in their markets. There is not now, and has not been, any malignant form of disease prevailing among the cattle here. Those which were found to have pleuro-pneumonia upon their arrival in England, contracted it upon the passage over. It was simply made a pretext for some movement tending to discourage the large and increasing exportation from the United States. It will, of course, have a tendency to depress the trade by arousing a panic among dealers and shippers, but it must of necessity be short-lived unless the British Government unite with the graziers against foreign importation.

The prohibition in Canada extends to 90 days, and is not likely to be renewed, as it will be found to militate against the people's own interests. In the end, it will be the same in Great Britain. With its limited area for grazing the utter impossibility of the home supply being equal to the demand is apparent. As the BLADE has said before, there is not the least necessity for any scare as the check in the trade must, in the very nature of things, be only temporary.

PELTON, like WEED, recognizes the inevitable, and acknowledges the cipher telegrams. There is small thanks to either of them for this; they only saved the very little trouble of proving them. They gain by their frankness, exemption from conviction of perjury, which could have been fastened upon them had they denied the dispatches. PELTON'S exculpation of TILDEN by inculpating himself is not worth serious discussion. The idea that a young man, dependent upon his uncles, bounty for his very board and clothes should take the unauthorized responsibility of offering hundreds of thousands of dollars for Southern Electors is simply preposterous. And if this were not so on its face, then the treating with him by MABBIE and others would make it so. Can any man believe for an instant that MANTON MARBLE, WOOLEY, WEED, *et al*—each of whom knew PELTON'S financial situation exactly,—thought they were reporting to and consulting simply with a penniless boy? Does any one imagine that if the money was to be raised from the Central Committee that these men would have advised with PELTON about it? The thing is too ridiculous for an instant's credence.

In the course of a few weeks some Democratic editor will discover in MCMAHON'S fate a remarkable illustration of the impolicy of electing soldiers to high office, and then what furious anti-GRANT articles we will have. It takes time for a Democratic editor to see a point, but when he once does he never forgets it, but polishes it as bright as a brass andiron by constant use.

BANKING SYSTEMS OF ENGLAND AND THE UNITED STATES.

THE English banking system which has been so highly commended by some writers in this country, and which is often referred to as being so far in advance of our own, lacks its most important elements of security and makes possible just such extended failures as that of the City of Glasgow bank, and the others which were brought down in its ruins, leaving the shareholders, in a large majority of cases, to a distress of which they had not dreamed, and that is the harder to bear as they were in no way responsible. By the United States National banking law, reserves are required to protect note holders and depositors; a surplus fund must provide against future losses; five times a year statements must be published of the condition of each and every bank; Government officers make periodical examinations of the books and papers, the assets and liabilities, so that it would appear to be impossible to have any deception in regard to these institutions.

Nothing of the kind is required in Great Britain. Some of their most intelligent financial thinkers and writers now confess that neither those most interested or the general public can gain any insight into the state of affairs in any of their banks. The officers may go on, year after year, with reckless, fraudulent transactions, and no one be any the wiser, until the great crash comes, bringing untold calamities upon innocent people. The N. Y. *World* says, in speaking of the consequences of the failure of the City of Glasgow Bank and that of the West of England:

"Never, probably, in the whole history of banking has the downfall of any two banks brought such widespread misery upon so many innocent people. Some idea of what the misery must be is to be gathered from the extraordinary fact that the positively illegal enterprise of a lottery in aid of the sufferers has been put into shape at a 'large and influential meeting held in the Religious Institution Rooms' of profoundly religious Scotland. A Baronet occupied the chair, another Baronet moved the resolutions, and two knights advocated this unique effort to raise $30,000,000. The fascination of the Paris lottery has conquered Scotland as well as England. The plan is to issue 6,000,000 of shares or tickets at £1 each, to apply one half of the sum raised to the relief of the bank shareholders, and to distribute in prizes the other half after deducting expenses, which prizes vary from £5 to £25,000 each.

STILL EVOLVING.

One of the greatest gifts that the world has ever received is the Evolution theory. It supplies a want that the people of the old times must have felt seriously as they had nothing to take its place. Mysteries then per force remained mysteries. Anything strange and abnormal in physical, mental or moral developments simply challenged the attention and wonderment of the lookers-on, without their making any attempt at an explanation.

Times have changed. The world is no longer in ignorance. Evolution explains everything. Is there a great political earthquake in whose throes some country seems about to be destroyed? It is merely a necessity in its evolution from a lower to a higher condition. Is the social world shaken to its very center by the launching of new ideas which threaten to overthrow the whole fabric of moral and religious obligations that have governed civilized people for long centuries and contributed so largely to their enlightenment? It is only a stepping stone to future progress. Out of the chaos produced, order will be evolved, and the world will be the better and the purer for the change. So it is reasoned.

Evolution invades our churches, our schools and even our kitchens. By and by there will be no such appendage as the latter to the family dwelling. Already public sentiment is moving, though slowly, towards huge co-operative establishments where the cooking for a neighborhood may be done, and others for the accomplishing of the washing and ironing in the same way, thus leaving only the lightest household labors to be performed in individual homes.

Nor have human beings stopped evolving yet. It has been a long way from the long-eared monkey to the present condition of mankind, but the coming men and women are to reach a still higher state, to progress still farther towards perfection. Some time in the far off aons, human beings are to become angels minus the wings.

The latest social and political movement attempted to be explained by evolution is Socialism. Strange to say, this connection is advocated by scientific people, and so far has it gone that Professor VIRCHOW, of Berlin, an opponent of Darwinism, has strongly objected to its being taught in the public schools of Germany, because it has a tendency towards socialism, and, therefore, is dangerous to society. This position has drawn out a great deal of strong, antagonistic argument from leading evolutionists, conspicuous among whom are Dr. HAECKEL and Prof. TYNDALL. The former claims that if evolution has an influence either way, it is towards aristocracy rather than Democracy, while the latter doubts whether the two things can be in any sense associated.

The only thing of importance about the discussion is whether it may not repress freedom of scientific inquiry, should the idea gain ground to an extent to influence legislators in that country to prohibit its teachings. Otherwise the world is ready to let the evolving process go on indefinitely and in any direction.

SMITH WEED testifies that he is an intimate personal and a trusted political friend of Mr. TILDEN'S; that he went South to look after that gentleman's interests; that in endeavoring to further those interests he attempted to buy up the South Carolina Canvassing Board; that he succeeded in making a satisfactory bargain, the consummation of which was only defeated by the non-arrival of the funds. We all remember now this came about: that TILDEN'S customary hesitation and shuffling interfered, and when he at last sent the money it was too late; for the time passed as the money reached Baltimore. Unless Mr. WEED can be successfully impeached—unless the man whom—next to PELTON—TILDEN was most confidential with—can be shown to be a conscienceless liar, then the case may be regarded as clearly established, and the best policy of the defendant will be to throw himself on the mercy of the Court.

SENATOR-ELECT JONAS, of Louisiana, is a Hebrew, and is the third of that race to sit in the Senate Chamber—the other two being JUDAH BENJAMIN, of Louisiana, and DAVID YULEE, of Florida. With a Jew as Prime Minister of England, and a Jew ruling the destinies of France, the race seems to be getting something like its share of the honors of this world.

THE Boston *Post* says that: "Tilden looms." Certainly; and it is a web of fraud and trickery that comes from his loom.

NOT A HERO, BUT A THIEF.

The Dexter Bank Mystery Solved.

Evidence that James W. Barron, the Cashier, Robbed the Bank, Falsified His Accounts, Swore to False Statements, and Committed Suicide.

BOSTON, Jan. 31.—For some time past Detective Dearborn, of this City, has been investigating the circumstances attending the mysterious death of James W. Barron, cashier of the Dexter, Me., Savings Bank, who was found in the outer vault of the bank about 8 o'clock in the evening of February 22, 1878, bound, gagged, and in a dying condition. Barron died in a few hours after, and it was believed by the bank officers and all others that he had been murdered by burglars for refusing to disclose the combination of the inner vault, which contained the banks's securities, and in consequence of this the affair attracted general attention throughout the country. Although several suspicious circumstances were developed after Barron's death, it was not until November 1, 1878, that a decided effort was made to clear up the mystery. About that date the new cashier of the bank discovered that Barron's sworn statement to the Bank Examiner had been tampered with, and the liabilities of the bank made $2,000 less than the actual amount. Barron's last statement to the Bank Examiner was audited by two of the Trustees, and the books agreeing with it, the statement was approved. By a more minute examination the astounding discovery was made that the figures 1 and 8 in Barron's original statement had been erased and the figures 2 and 6 substituted. It was further discovered that in the sum charged to to loans on collateral securities the figure 2 had been substituted for a cipher, making the sum loaned appear $12,789 50, instead of $10,789 50. These erasures and alterations had evidently been made after the statement had been audited.

Examination has also been made of the cash books from November 1, 1877, up to February 22, 1878, the time of the supposed murder, and it was ascertained that if the entries on that book were correct there ought to have been about $1,600 in the bank at that time. Sandwiched in among the regular entries on the book between the two last-named dates were found items of various amounts, amounting to $1,600, which just equals the amount of money which should have been on hand at that time. Barron was $3,600 short in all, and had perjured himself to cover the $2,000 deficit in the bank statement. With these facts as a basis, an exhaustive investigation was made and a full statement of the result, showing that Barron committed suicide, will be published to-morrow.

EVIDENCES OF SUICIDE.

The statement shows that not a single dollar in the outer vault was taken or a paper disturbed; that the bank was in full view of the Post Office throughout the day, and not a suspicious person was seen to leave it, nor was any known to have been seen in the Town or to depart from it; that snow was on the ground, and not a footstep was found in the rear of the building under the window which was found open. That the physicians who attended Barron at the time of his death agree that none of his slight outward wounds would have caused his death, and that his symptoms were those of morphine poisoning; that he did not die of heart disease, as some supposed, and not by suffocation in the vault; that the room in which he was supposed to have been attacked by burglars, and where his false teeth, etc., were found, had a thick coating of coal dust upon it, and this bore no traces of a scuffle, nor was there any dirt upon Barron's clothing. A screw driver and an old lamp were found in the vault on top of the safe after the discovery of Barron. The finding of the lamp and screw driver proved the clue to the mystery.

HOW THE ACT WAS COMMITTED.

After one day's experimenting the officers demonstrated that Barron could have locked himself in. On the outer door of the vault was a combination lock. This was held to the door on the inside by a cap fastened by one screw. The cap being removed it was easy to pull the door to, shove the bolts into place with the hand from the inside, and then secure them by a finger manipulating the bolt of the lock into its proper place. This done, it was easy to replace the cap. Then the door was locked, and could not be opened except from the outside, and then only by one who knew the combination. The officers claim that he did it on this occasion, working by the light of the kerosene lamp above referred to, and also fastened the second or inside door without the aid of his keys. This the officers did over and over again, and they claim Barron did. It was then an easy matter to extinguish the light and place the lamp and screwdriver where they were found, on the top of a small inner safe. Next in order probably came the swallowing of poison and the adjustment of the rope and gag. To place manacles upon his wrists was a comparatively easy task. Everything being then ready, all that remained was to lie down upon the floor and await the end. It was discovered that he had talked of suicide and had inquired about various kinds of handcuffs; that he had discharged a mortgage on his house of $2,000 about January, 1877, and that as far back as then he had "doctored" his books to cover discrepancies. In Barron's desk was found a copy of the trial of Scott and Dunlap, the Northampton Bank robbers. It will be remembered that when that bank was robbed the cashier was taken from his house, gagged, handcuffed and partially choked by a rope around his neck, in order to compel him to open the doors of the bank. The supposition is that Barron imitated as closely as he could the modus operandi of those desperadoes.

THE FALSIFIED ACCOUNTS.

By his cash-book it appears that there ought to have been $520 in cash on hand, when in reality there was no money in the bank, as has already been stated. In reference to the $500 bond entered on the books, the bank has advertised very extensively for the information as to who in any one sold such a bond to Barron on, or about that time, but has not been successful. The presumption now is that no $500 bond was ever purchased by him, and that entry was made to account in part for $1000 which should have been on hand at that time. In addition to the value of the bond, he charged off $867 to "cash," which together with the bond, is unaccounted for on the other books. It is suspected that the false statement made by Barron to the Bank Examiner in November, 1877, together with the suspension of the Newport Savings Bank the week previous, and the knowledge in his possession that the Dexter Bank could not stand a run, impelled him in the commission of the deed.

BANGOR, Feb. 2.—Mrs. Barron, widow of the late treasurer of the Dexter Savings Bank in a brief letter to the Whig and Courier, asks suspension of public judgment. While desiring the most thorough and impartial investigation, she says that contrary to the usual procedure, the theory seems to have been advanced that her late husband was a defaulter and committed suicide, and that that facts are being hunted for to sustain that theory. She asks the public to consider his character in the community where he lived, and had been active in business, having transactions, perhaps, with more individuals than any person in the town, and asks any one of that number to bring any accusation of intentional fraud on his part. She believes they will acknowledge that, rather than wrong another he would himself suffer. All that has thus far been advanced is unsubstantiated rumors, which that community will never believe. She closes by saying, if Mr. Barron was a defaulter, he must be shown ar such to his executor and bondsmen, and let us wait for the decision.

To be a charming hostess requires all the best qualities of the legendary angel combined with the fascinating wisdom of the arch enemy.—*Buffalo Courier.*

AN INSANE MINISTER.

Rev. Mr. Sutphen's Misfortune.

The Popular Pastor of a Church Driven Crazy by Hard Work and Too Much Responsibility.

NEW YORK, Feb. 5.—The Sun says: For 12 years the Rev. David S. Sutphen has been the beloved Pastor of the First Dutch Reformed Church of New Utrecht. The church is the second oldest on Long Island, and its 200th anniversary was celebrated in October, 1876. The members are solid Long Island farmers, well-to-do in this world's goods, and with an appreciation of good preaching. Mr. Sutphen preached his trial sermon to them when he was yet a student in Rutgers College, and so pleased were the New Utrecht folks that they engaged him forthwith. A short time after his installation he married the

BEAUTIFUL AND ACCOMPLISHED DAUGHTER

of Dr. Pholemus of Waverly, N. J. They have had four children. The congregation voted him a salary of $2,000, besides an annual donation amounting to $300 or $400 more. The old parsonage house was remodeled for him at the expense of the congregation, and fitted up as a handsome modern residence. The pastor kept his horse and carriage, and lived in as good style as the best of his neighbors. He was a frequent guest at tea drinkings and merry makings, and was the life and soul of church festivals and gatherings.

In person Mr. Sutphen is

OF MEDIUM HEIGHT,

with dark eyes and hair, and of modest winning ways. He has always been a great student, and, two years ago, is thought to have over exerted himself during a revival in his church. His health for some time past has been declining, and last Summer, at the request of his consistory, he prolonged his usual vacation of four weeks to two months, in order, if possible, to rebuild his shattered constitution. No change in Mr. Sutphen's appearence was noted until about 10 days ago.

A week ago last Sunday Mr. Sutphen preached an

UNUSUALLY ELOQUENT

sermon. Shortly after preaching he was seized with a slight headache, accompanied by feverishness. On Monday the symptoms reappeared, but they were so slight as to cause little or no uneasiness. The family retired at the usual hour, Mr. Sutphen remaining awake and restless, as usual. Shortly after 2 o'clock the wife was aroused by the noise of someone talking in violent tones. She looked up and saw her husband standing in the middle of the room, and pouring forth the most frantic and coherent declarations. He trembled violently, his body swung to and fro, and his hands were clenched tightly together.

"I'M MAD!"

he cried, in piteous accents, wringing his hands and gesticulating wildly. "I'm mad; do you hear? I must go to the doctor or I shall do some harm to somebody!"

Then he drew on a pair of trousers, and, wearing nothing else save his night shirt, started for the door. The faithful wife placed herself before it and tried to dissuade him.

The maddened man tried to drag her away from before the door, but she resisted his efforts, and clung to him, beseeching him to stay. With an overpowering effort he shoved her away, burst through another door leading into the hall, rushed down the stairs and out. It was a dark, stormy night. Rain and sleet were falling, and the roads were rough, covered with half frozen mud and ice. Out into the storm dashed the frantic pastor and ran madly down the street.

It is a good quarter of a mile from the parsonage to Dr. DeMund's, and when the unfortunate pastor got there he was in a pitiable plight. He hurried up on the steps and rang the bell furiously. The Doctor, who had been sitting up late reading, and had gone to bed only 10 minutes before, thrust his head out of a window and asked, "Who's there?" When the rays of his light fell upon the half-clad form, the deathly pale face, with the perspiration standing in beads on the forehead, and the wet and bedraggled garments, he started back in horror.

"It's me! Doctor," cried the poor clergyman, in despairing tones. "I'm a raving maniac. Take me in, for God's sake! for the sake of my little family!"

The doctor descended to the door, and with kind and soothing words led the trembling man up-stairs into a warm bedroom. He washed the dirt from his wounded feet, and after attending to his other wants, and giving him a sedative powder prevailed on him to get into bed. The patient, however, exhibited a tendency to violence, and it was only after some struggles that he consented to do as he was bid. Then the doctor called Mrs. DeMund and her mother, and left them to go for additional help. The Doctor had hardly got out of the room before Mr. Sutphen sprang up and made for the door. The ladies cried for assistance, and, the Doctor coming back, a tussle ensued between him and the frantic clergyman, in which the latter, considering his weak condition and recent exposure, exhibited surprising strength. The Doctor is a large, powerful man, but the pastor forced him back through the room into which he had lain into another. At last the struggle ended by Mr. Sutphen becoming calmer and consenting to go back to bed.

Meantime the wildest confusion prevailed in the parsonage. Mrs. Sutphen hurried to the door, and after calling wildly after her husband, threw on a wrapper and shawl and was setting out after him as the cries of her children made her pause. She roused Clara, the servant maid, and sent her after Mr. Sutphen.

THE MOST STRENUOUS EFFORTS

were made by the pastor's friends and his family to keep the melancholy affair from the public. During the past week Mr. Sutphen has been allowed to converse with ministerial and other friends who have called upon him. Among the former are the Rev. Mr. Carpenter of the Bedford Avenue Congregational Church, the Rev. Mr. Gulick of the Twelfth Street Church, Gowanus, and the Rev. Mr. Stockwell of Gravesend.

SHERMAN'S LETTER.

Not the One to Weber but to Arthur.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6.—Sec. Sherman has furnished a full copy of his personal letter to Arthur in respect to a son of Judge Bradley, which was read in executive session of the Senate, and said that in comparatively few cases, and only at the instance of gentlemen of great distinction, who might not care to have their requests for office put upon the public records, he wrote personal letters. He did not think it honorable in Arthur, or fair to these gentlemen, to disclose such letters, but, so far as he (Sherman) was concerned, he would, under the circumstances, rather have them published. He said that if he heard of any other personal letters of his disclosed by Arthur, he would promptly publish them, and not allow them to be eked out through the cloak of a secret session of the Senate.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, Jan. 18, 1879. (Personal.)

DEAR SIR: I enclose a letter from Justice Bradley of the Supreme Court, strongly recommending his son for a position in the Custom House. The young gentleman will call on you and explain more fully. For manifest reasons, I would be very glad to oblige Mr. Bradley, who takes this matter to heart, and hope you may be able to give his son employment, as he no doubt is highly deserving, and would be a meritorious officer. I have promised Mr. Bradley nothing definitely, but leave the matter to you, with the sincere hope that you may be able to comply with this request.

Very truly, etc.,

JOHN SHERMAN.

To Gen. C. A. Arthur, Collector of Customs, New York.

Roscoe's Scalp.

Chicago Times.

The Secretary of the Treasury has Roscoe's scalp at his belt, but what will most concern the gentleman from Ohio will be to have the scalp of Roscoe's State in 1880. John is fully entered for the war dance of that year.

THAT LOVELY MAIDEN.

He stood by the open window,
And gazed on the brilliant throng
Of rare and radiant maidens
Who floated like sylphs along.
There was one, a star eyed beauty,
In shimmering robes of light,
That dazzled his wond'ring vision,
Like a dream of angels bright.

Enraptured, he sought to know her;
So timidly he drew near
This wondrous, winning maiden
Who filled him with anxious fear.
And when thro' the gay dance gliding,
He found that his eyes grew dim,
He thought he had gone to glory
And a spirit walked with him.

No word spoke the angel maiden,
But smiled enchantingly sweet,
While the wish grew strong to scatter
Himself in dust at her feet.
At last he mustered up courage
To ask her if he might call
When the morning sun was throwing
A robe of gold over all.

He thought to hear words of music;
He listened with ear intent;
His heart, that sensitive organ,
Like a big steam engine went.
Through her nose then spake that maiden;
His pulses stopped with a flop;
"If it's proper 'twould be jolly,
And to night I'll ask my pop."

HOW THE CHINESE MARK TIME.

Some Very Curious Excerpts from the Latest Official Almanac.

American Journal.

The Chinese Official Almanac is issued annually in December, and is carefully prepared by the Board of Astronomy, an important body, imperially appointed, presided over by a Prince of the royal blood, and equal in dignity to any other Government body in the Empire. The almanac is bestowed as a special act of grace by the Emperor on the Coreans, Loochooans, Annamites and other tributary States. As this publication is so highly respected by the Chinese, it may fairly be considered as the representative of the highest state of astronomical science reached by them. A large part of the astrological portion of the almanac is intended for a "practical guide in the common affairs of life." A translation is given of the admonitions for the first days of the current year, as follows:—

The first day is favorable for sacrifice and for entering school; at noon it is allowable to bathe. It is unfavorable for starting on a journey or changing residence.

The second day is favorable for sacrifice and bathing. It is unfavorable for starting on a journey, removing or practising acupuncture.

The third day: there are no indications.

The fourth day: may receive or make visits and cut out clothes; at 7 A. M., may draw up contracts, barter and make presents. May not go on journey nor break ground.

The fifth day: may visit, bathe, shave and clean up; may not plant and sow.

The sixth day is favorable for sacrifice, conjugal union, visiting, taking on a new servant, starting on a journey, removing, marrying, repairing, breaking ground; at 3 A. M., may draw up contracts, open shop, barter, send presents, seal, test the soil and bury.

The seventh day: may level roads, but must not start on a journey.

The eighth: may sacrifice, memorialize, enter office, assume ceremonial clothes; at five A. M. may sit toward the southeast; also favorable for conjugal union, visits, weddings, taking on a new servant, starting on a journey, erecting uprights and putting on cross-beams, building, removing soil and burying.

The writer gives a few more items and comments as follows:—

And so it goes on for nearly every day in the year. Enough has been translated to show the excessive childishness and absurdity of this, the principal part of the Imperial Almanac. On the 17th one may be treated for illness and open caches of provision. On the 23d it is allowable to pull down old houses and walls, but drains must not be opened or wells dug until the 27th. Arrests should be made on the 15th; this is the only favorable day in the month—a very satisfactory arrangement for criminals. There are four days in 30 on which one may cut out clothes, and the same number on which one may sweep and clean up. It is advised to shave on the 5th, 22d and 29th, and to bathe seven times in the month. Unfortunately, the intervals between the bath days are unequal, and the believer in the Almanac must wait from the 5th to the 18th, and from the 14th to the 21st. Besides, on the 1st bathing is favorable at an inconvenient hour—viz: noon; the hour on the 29th (5 o'clock) is much better.

These indications seem too silly to affect sensible men, yet while the Chinaman is not only sensible, but actually shrewd and keen, he guides most of his important affairs by the Almanac. The poorer classes watch the almanac carefully, and marry, bury and do other things only when it advises; and it is to be feared that the better educated do not start on a journey nor enter office except on favorable days, though it is to be hoped they bathe, shave and clean much oftener.

Why a Letter Don't Go.

Because you forgot to address it.

Because you forgot to stamp it.

Because you forgot to write the town or State on the envelope.

Because you didn't write the street

Answers to Correspondents.

We are obliged to remind our readers that there are certain classes of questions which we cannot undertake to answer, viz.:

1. Those not accompanied by the name of the writer. The name is not required for publication but only as an evidence of good faith. All letters not complying with this rule find their way at once into the waste basket.

2. Mathematical problems, and questions in grammatical construction. We are willing to give all our readers an opportunity to ask and answer the former, but we have not the type necessary for publishing algebraic problems and solutions.

3. Questions which in the judgment of the editor are not appropriate or proper for the columns of the BLADE. Hundreds of questions come to this department every week, and the editor must be allowed to exercise his discretion in making selections calculated to promote the general interest.

4. Inquiries as to the standing or reliability of individuals, firms, or corporations, doing a general business. The BLADE's endorsement is too valuable to be bestowed indiscriminately and it is not always possible for us to devote the time necessary to ascertain the standing of an individual or a firm located in distant parts of the country.

MRS. M. S. W., Labetha, Kans.: "Shirley Dare's" address is New York City.

MISS. EMMA SNOOK, Ashland, Ills., wishes to obtain the address of Marnetta Nurse, formerly of Clinton, Ind.

P. T. M., Deshler, O.: Address American Bee Journal, Chicago, Ills., or Gleanings in Bee Culture, Medina, O.

J. J. BRADLEY, Dry Branch, Mo., would like to have some of the Nebraska readers give him some description of Adams and Clay counties in that State, especially along the line of the St. Jo & Denver Railroad.

R. N. W., Seanwick, Ill.: Write to Blade Printing and Paper Company, Toledo, O., regarding the material you name. We will make further inquiry regarding "copy slips." Think your getting them is doubtful.

M. E. S., Fairfield, Kans.: We could furnish you the names of several publications such as you mention, but we do not believe that they would do you any good. Everything that we have ever seen with such pretensions is a humbug.

MRS. S. S. S., Friend, Neb., wishes to obtain information of Samuel Howard Brown. When last heard from was at Dilli, Tarant County, Texas, 18 months ago. Any news concerning him will be thankfully received, if addressed as above.

L. A. D., Maugansville, Md., asks: "1. Did Chief Justice Waite reside in Toledo, O., when he took his seat on the bench? 2. Are there any of the Associate Justices from Ohio?"—1. Yes. 2. Noah H. Swayne, who formerly resided in Columbus, in this State.

C. F., Pennville, Ind., asks: Please give in your answers to correspondents a brief sketch of Napoleon II., so I can not find where he is mentioned in history; also, give the present address of Junius Brutt Browne, an attache of the New York Herald during our last unpleasantness.

CHARLES BEARDSLY, Albany, N. Y., writes: "I wish to obtain the address of Marcus Hutchinson. My friends have written a number of times and received no answer. When last heard from he was in Toledo, Ohio."—He is in Detroit, Mich., working in the Free Press job office.

H. BARNE, Mound City, Kans., wishes to obtain information regarding the relatives of the late Hiram Slater. Any such person can learn of something to their advantage by writing to John Cole, of Newberg, Mo. The said Hiram Slater was a native of Maryland, but removed to Missouri from Ohio.

D. E. SUMNEY, Beloit, Wis., writes: Your books which I have so far received, commencing with "The Conquest of Turkey" to the last "Ten Years of my Life," give entire satisfaction. The National Sermons, I think comes up to and above the "point." So far as your books go they "beat anything" and are a settler on book agents.

EMMETT LANE, Whitehouse, Ohio, wishes to obtain information regarding the whereabouts of David and Hugh Lahr. They moved from Pennsylvania into Ohio, the former about 45, the latter about 35 years ago. Should either of these men or their children read this paragraph, they will confer a great favor by advertising their brother, as above.

I. A. D., Sheffield, Pa., sends the following problem, for which he wishes a particularly plain solution: "A B and C went to market with 70, 30 and 50 eggs, respectively. They sold at the same rate, and received the same number of cents. For instance, the one that had 30 eggs sold his at the same rate as the one that had 50 cents, and received as much for his eggs."

S. M. S., Stafford, Va., asks: "What is the origin of the term "giving quarter?"—It is stated that it arose from a agreement made by the Dutch and the Spaniards, during one of their numerous wars, that the ransom of a soldier or an officer should be one quarter of his pay. Hence, to ask for quarter was to request that these terms should be accepted; to decline it was to refuse to grant life at that price.

H. C. H., Scottsburg, (no State) writes: Please tell D. W. Young, Federalsburg, Md., that he must try the $30 problem again, as he came so close this time, perhaps he will work it out next time. As I have nothing to do but work problems like that I will send him correct answer, and here it is: A, $21 1-19; B, $5 15-19; C, $12 12-19; D, $30 10-19; total amount, $90.00. This is not like Young's answer. This is a correct answer, and I defy any man to disprove it.

R. F. M., Toledo, O., writes: "A friend and myself have had a dispute in regard to the cold New Year's Day of 1856 or 1861. Will you please tell us, if you can, which year it was and what day of the week?"—The "cold New Year's Day" to which you refer was the first of January, 1856, and New Year's Day that year fell on Saturday. This statement is made from memory and may be wrong, but we think will be found correct if any one has any data to refer to.

G. B., Clarinda, Ia., asks: "How do the large cities manage about their Congressmen? Does each city have one, or are they divided up into several districts?"—Under the present arrangement the city of New York is divided into seven Congressional Districts and Philadelphia into five. Boston, St. Louis and Chicago each have three districts, but in these three cities adjacent townships are attached to one or more of the districts.

P. S. W., Ashland, O., asks: "Was Millard Fillmore a college graduate?"—No, he was not what is termed a liberally-educated man. He was born in Cayuga Co., New York, and was brought up to trade, but being studious, he educated himself, and finally was admitted to practice at the bar as a lawyer for some years in Erie county. He was raised to the Presidency by the death of Gen. Taylor, on the 4th of July, 1850, and thus became the thirteenth President of the United States.

N. G. C., Mason City, Ia., says: "I saw something in some late paper about another World's Fair being organized for New York City. Is there such a project about to be entered upon some time during the next four years?"—New York talked a great deal some time ago, about a Centennial celebration in 1883, (if we mistake not) the year of the declaration of peace, and the evacuation of that city by the British. Nothing seems to have been done about the matter lately, so far as we can learn.

J. R. P., Nelson, Kans., writes: "We are taking four papers, among which is the New York Tr—b—e—, but we value the BLADE more than all the rest. It has a greater variety and consequently wears better."—Your friend and subscriber has written a volume in that last sentence. Variety is not only the spice of life, but the sauce of a good newspaper. The BLADE covers the widest range, and is constantly seeking for something new and good to instruct and entertain its readers.

H. M. R., Washington, Ill., asks: "1. Were there patents issued to the soldiers that served under Gen. Clark, in the Revolution, for the land that was granted to him and his men? 2. If patents were issued, were they recorded? 3. If recorded, where are the records at this time?"—1. Yes. 2. Yes. 3. They ought to be among the records of the Land Office at Washington. If not there, we could hardly tell you where to look for them.

A. F., Kane, Ky., asks: "What is vegetable tallow, and where is it obtained?"—There is a tree which grows in Java which produces what is called vegetable tallow. It is found on the west coast of Borneo, in the Indian Ocean, and is called by the natives the butter tree. They use the tallow for preparing their food, and also for illuminating purposes in the form of candles. The tallow is obtained from the nut of a tree, which is steeped in water for weeks and then put under a powerful press.

WM. H. S., Grand Rapids, O., asks: "Will you please inform me through your columns of the law lately passed giving the mechanic and laborer a better chance to collect for work and labor done?"—You will find the Mechanics' Lien law in the volume of the laws passed by the Legislature in the year 1877, page 168, and in an amendment to section 2, found in the laws of 1879, page 48, and also further provisions on page 514 of the same volume. You will find copies of these laws with the Township Clerk or any Justice of the Peace.

MRS. A. R. P., Clark Mills, Wis., asks: "1. How shall I address a letter to Mrs. Hayes, at Washington? 2. How shall I address the Queen of England?"—1. Mrs. R. B. Hayes, Washington, D. C. You might add "White House," if you like, but it seems hardly necessary. 2. To Her Majesty, Victoria, London, Eng. You might, if you like, add the titles Queen of the United Kingdoms of Great Britain and Ireland, and Empress of India, but Her Majesty does not stick at these little trifles as less prominent people would. However, you should not neglect to enclose return postage in each case. Both ladies are a little particular about that.

F. E. H., Eatonville, N. Y., asks: "Is there any difference between one square mile and one mile square? If so, explain it."—We have already gone into this subject to fully that it seems idle to repeat. There is no difference between one mile square and one square mile. But there is a difference of one half between two square miles and two mile square. Or, to put the matter a little differently, a piece of ground two miles square is just twice as large as a piece containing two square miles. You can very easily make this perfectly clear to your own mind by simply constructing on a piece of blank paper two diagrams, one of two miles square and the other of two square miles.

H. B. W., Richland, Mich., asks: "Will you please give me the names and titles of all the leading rulers of Europe?"—Great Britain, Queen, Victoria (surname Guelph); Germany, Emperor, William I. (Hohenzollern); Russia, Emperor, Alexander II. (Romanoff); Austria, Emperor, Francis Joseph I. (Hapsburg-Lorraine); Spain, King, Alphonso XII. (Bourbon); Portugal, King, Louis (Braganza-Bourbon); Italy, King, Humbert I. (Savoy-Carignan); Denmark, King, Christian IX. (Schleswig-Holstein-Sonderberg-Glucksburg); Norway and Sweden, King, Oscar II. (Bernadotte); Greece, King, George I. (Schleswig-Holstein-Sonderberg-Glucksburg-Augustenberg); France, President, Marshal Grevy.

JAMES W., Monica, Ill., asks: "1. Which are the most noted works of fiction? 2. Please draw the line of demarcation between the two classes of literature. 3. Can Shakespeare's, Milton's and Bunyon's works be counted fictitious?"—1. Perhaps the most noted writers of English fiction are Richardson, De Foe, Scott, Thackeray, Dickens and Hawthorne, or rather, to speak more accurately, the writers we have named are the leading representative writers of fiction in English literature. 2. The gradations between superiority and mediocrity, between the really good and the truly bad, are so numerous and shadowy shaded that it is impossible to draw any such line. 3. They are the highest grade of fiction, but not fictitious.

J. F., Strawberry Point, Ia., asks: "1. Has the story entitled "Sol Slocum, or the Maid of the Juniata," by Emerson Bennett, ever been printed in book form, and where can it be obtained? 2. Can you not add Mrs. Mary J. Holmes' works to the BLADE booklist? 3. Can any person having two BLADE lists present one to a friend, and they get books at half price? 4. How long do you intend to furnish books at half price?"—1. Yes. We believe it is published by the proprietors of the "New York Weekly." 2. We expect shortly to add a number of Mrs. Holmes' best works to our Catalogue. 3. Certainly, we are glad to have not only our subscribers but their friends order books from the BLADE Catalogue at half price. Every person who has a catalogue is entitled to the privileges of ordering as many books from it at half price as they may wish. 4. We expect to continue supplying books at half price just as long as there is a demand among the people for good and cheap reading at low prices.

W. H. C., Bethel, Or., asks: "When is Ground-hog's day, and why is it so called? Some say the 21 of February and some say the 14th."—According to prevalent tradition, backed by the writings of the best authorities, Ground-hog's day is now generally conceded to fall on the 2d of February, new style. Upon this day the Ground-hog, who has been hibernating during the Winter, comes out to take a look at the weather and forecast the probabilities of a late or early Spring. If the prognosticator on this occasion sees his shadow (Latin *umbra*), it is currently believed that he assumes that we are still to have six weeks more of Winter, and accordingly he again withdraws to his den till the period of added rigor be overpast. Those who have devoted years of thought and study to this subject fail to agree as to two important questions pertaining to it. The first is, By what process of reasoning or instinct does the Ground-hog reach his conclusion; and, second, How was the fact of his making such conclusion and of his consequent action communicated to the human family? There have been people who were rash enough to doubt the wisdom and accuracy of the Spring probabilities as laid down by the Ground-hog, but they have mostly perished or exist simply as relics of a conservative and unbelieving age.

D., Bellefonte, Pa., desires to be informed whether divorces are legal obtained by a certain class of lawyers who advertise themselves as "Divorce Lawyers" and who claim that they obtain their divorces in the United States Courts, which being Courts of Record thus legalizes them and that they can be obtained without publicity or exposure and for any cause and within 60 days from time of application. D. wishes a full answer on the *legal* aspect of the question, *not the moral*. There are some things which come before courts where the legal and the moral aspect of the thing cannot be separated. Courts will not tolerate such gross immoralities and fraud as the course advertised by such "Divorce Lawyers" involves. In the first place U. S. Courts do not grant divorces at all. In the second place, no divorce can be obtained which is legal without publicity and due notice, either personally served or by advertisement in newspapers of general circulation; and thirdly, divorce can not be obtained for every cause—but only for such as the statutes authorize. We advise our readers (outside of Ohio, for in this State it is a crime to publish or circulate such advertisements) to beware of such offers; they come from no lawyer, and they are beneath the respectability of the common shyster, and are from mere professional hyenas.

W. A. L., Georgetown, Colo., asks: "1. Are single women allowed to take up Government lands by any of the acts of Congress? If so, please mention on what conditions. 2. Would the heirs of a commissioned officer, who came home on veteran furlough and died at home, be entitled to the three months extra pay, or bounty, which was granted, by Congress, to officers, shortly after the close of the War? 3. What kind of ground is best for planting Catalpa seed?"—1. Yes, if they are over 21 years of age or the head of a family. That is, a single woman under 21, who had charge of orphan brothers or sisters would be entitled to all the benefits of the homestead or pre-emption law. The conditions would be precisely the same as those under which a man could avail himself of these laws. These conditions have been given so repeatedly in these columns that we will not undertake to repeat them. 2. We are inclined to think that he would, but can hardly undertake to say definitely without knowing more of the particulars in the case. 3. We submit this question for reply to some of our readers who have had experience in the matter.

ESQUIRER, Gilead Station, O., wishes our opinion on "the constitutionality of the poll tax: and also the tax of $1 on dogs:" and he quotes section 1, article 12 of the Constitution, which reads: "The levying of taxes by the poll is grievous and oppressive, therefore the General Assembly shall never levy a poll tax for County or State purposes;" and also part of section 2: "All property, real and personal, shall be taxed by a uniform rule according to its true value in money."—1. As to the "poll tax." There is no "poll tax" in Ohio, known as such. Of course, if there was one, "for County or State purposes," it would be unconstitutional. "Enquirer" likely has in mind "An act relating to roads and highways," in which certain able-bodied male persons shall be liable to perform two days' labor each year on the highway, and on failure to do so, after being duly warned, shall forfeit and pay a penalty of $1 for each offense, and be liable for $2.50 for the two days, to be recovered in civil action; and if he chooses, instead of doing the work, he may pay the sum of $2.50. But this is not a poll tax. The object of the law, as its title shows, is to maintain the roads and highways, and is in its nature akin to a law requiring of certain able-bodied male persons service in the State militia, or in lieu thereof to pay a sum of money. The Supreme Court of the State has decided that such is not a poll tax, and so not unconstitutional. A requirement of personal service is not the imposition of a tax. All that this statute requires is personal service on a public work for the common good, or in lieu of the service, commutation money to be paid, which is expended wholly upon the roads. 2. As to dogs. There are several grounds for the constitutionality of the law by which, as "Enquirer" puts it, "a dog which is not worth five cents may be taxed $1 a year," but one will suffice here. The statute which "Enquirer" doubtless has in mind is one entitled "An act for the protection of wool-growers, and the confiscation of dogs." Taxation is of two kinds; first, for revenue; and second, for regulation. The power to tax for regulation is a police power unquestionably resting in the Legislature, and extends over everything which is shown to be prejudicial to the rights of property or personal liberty of the citizen. The title of the act in question shows that the Legislature regarded, what is generally conceded to be true, that the unrestrained liberty of dogs, having no master or one who was irresponsible, was prejudicial to the wool interests of the State; and that a fine, penalty, or tax if you prefer to call it such—although calling it such does not change its character—would tend to lessen the number of worthless dogs, and to confine the remaining ones to the ownership of responsible people, who were able, and who thought enough of their dogs to prompt them to pay as much as $1 a year for each dog.

MAGAZINE EDITING.

Curious Stories Told at a Lotus Club Banquet.

From a New York Letter.

I was at a Lotus Club dinner recently, and a pretty well known journalist being called on for "a speech! a speech!" after the uproarious habit of that intellectual circus, rose and told a story: "It might be called," said he, with a sly look at the head of the table, where sat, in Presidential majesty, a rather corpulent, slightly bald, middle aged man, "it might be called 'How I got into a magazine.'" Then he changed to the other foot, blushed slightly, leaned on his fork, and said:

"I had an article once which I thought would make 5 pages in a magazine—if it got a chance. I concluded to give the "Atlantic Monthly" the benefit of it, because that is a superb creation of the human intellect and ought to be encouraged. [Smiles and raps on the table.] I sent it to that periodical, saying that it was my maiden effort, and asking the editor to send me the $100 by draft or money order. In three weeks it came back, to my unfeigned amazement, with the printed notice that it was excellent, but not exactly adapted, etc. I saw that the editor of the "Atlantic" was a fool. [Cheers around the table and satirical approval.] I sent it to another well-known magazine, offering it for $50. It came back in two months, just as I was looking for it to appear. The magazine, too, was evidently a failure! I then sent it (price $15) to a first-class weekly that printed just such things as my sketch, 'Mary Wanley's Guide,' but not half as well written. Three and encouraging remarks again it was sent back. [Laughter.] I could not believe that our periodical literature was decaying so fast. I offered it to another journalist for nothing, telling him that I was a beginner, that this was the first effort of the sort I had ever offered to anybody, and I watched his face as he examined it suspiciously, and finally returned it to me, saying that the style was faulty; the idea was good, though it might have been used heretofore; but, with study and careful practice I would make, perhaps in time, etc. [Laughter.]

"I was mad, gentlemen!" said the speaker, amid the roars of the company, and, leaning on the chair with his other hand, he went on: "Something heroic must be done! Two years had passed. It was now 1871. I resolved to storm the citadel. I borrowed my brother's sealskin overcoat, so as to look imposing as possible, and struck for an illustrated magazine I had not tried—one of the finest works of art in the world. The doorkeeper stood briskly aside as I went in and asked for the editor, whose name I did not then know. I was speedily ushered into the presence of a young man who asked me to be seated, and inquired my business. 'To see the editor.' He would examine my manuscript. 'Very well,' I said, still standing. 'I must have an answer in five minutes, as I leave on the next train for Boston.' He parleyed, but I was severe and taciturn, and reached for the manuscript which he had taken. 'I will see Mr. ——,' said he naming the editor himself. The latter appeared. 'We will send this to you by mail,' said he, 'if it is not used,' 'I can leave it with you only 15 minutes,' I replied. He looked surprised, and glanced at the title. 'You can surely leave it one night,' he expostulated. 'No,' I rejoined, resolutely. 'I have other uses for it. In that I suppose he scented the opposition house, for he took off his overcoat (he was just going home), and said: 'I will look it over now.' [Cheers around the table.]

"He was a fine-looking man as he sat there in the dying twilight—[Cries of Oh! Ah!] a rather corpulent, slightly bald, middle-aged man (at this the company turned toward the presiding officer, who was so red as a boiled lobster, and then they roared with glee,) and he looked up in about ten minutes and said: 'I will take this——; Mr. Oliver, please make out a check for $50.'

What? I asked, '$50?' 'my price is $125.' 'Ah!' said he, passing the manuscript to me, 'it is more than we ever pay anybody, except famous writers.' I delivered a stately bow, took the roll of paper and turned out of the door. 'Well!' said he, calling to me, 'We'll take it at $125.' and Mr. Oliver made out my check. [Cheers and roars of laughter. The man at the head of the table had turned a sort of indigo blue.]

"The worst of it is, or the best of it," said the narrator "that I had not seen or heard of that sketch during all these seven years!"

The Lotus Club Hall rang with cheers and laughter, for his manner of telling the story was indescribably droll, and then all parties turned toward the presiding officer who was recognized as the hero of the narrative.

He rose slowly to his feet; the blue went out of his face, and even the scarlet turned to the rosy dush which is habitual to it, and he smiled cheerfully by the time the cheers and guffaws which greeted him had died away.

"The fact is," he began, deprecatingly, and then there was another great roar of laughter; "yes; I well remember the circumstances. I accepted the sketch to keep its writer from inflicting it on some weaker magazine. [Loud laughter.] Our house is rich, I can stand in the breach. If it were not for the work we do in buying articles capable of injury, the mortality among magazines would be incalculable. [Laughter and cheers.] Yes, gentlemen, when a person with a flighty temperament comes in—[laughter]—we exert every nerve to get possession of his manuscript to prevent the desolation that might otherwise ensue. [Cheers and jingling of glasses.] Such an article might fall into the hands of men who would inadvertently print it. [Cheers and cries of 'Hear! hear!'] We lock it up in a strong safe."

The company, led by the journalist, who blushed again at the awkward position, then drank to the magacious magazine, while the editor went on seriously to say that he had eight immense fire-proof safes full of stories and other manuscripts that had been bought and paid for, some of the matter extending back many years. "If nobody should write a word for the body of the magazine for the next ten years," he said, "it would appear regularly every month, and I doubt if its quality would be at all impaired." Then Junius Henri Browne told amusing stories of his magazine experience, and alleged that the Harpers still had unpublished stories of his paid for eight years ago.

Stands are always sold at auction to the buy standers.

The Sunday School.

The King in Zion.

LESSON 8, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1879.

GOLDEN TEXT.—Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.—Acts 2: 36.

LESSON TEXT.

Psa. 2: 1-12.

1. Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing? 2. The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord, and against the Anointed, saying, 3. Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us. 4. He that sitteth in Heaven shall laugh; the Lord shall have them in derision. 5. Then shall he speak unto them in his wrath, and vex them in his sore displeasure. 6. Yet have I set my King upon my holy hill of Zion. 7. I will declare the decree; the Lord hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee. 8. Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession. 9. Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel. 10. Be wise now therefore, O ye kings; be instructed, ye judges of the earth. 11. Serve the Lord with fear and rejoice with trembling. 12. Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish by the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all they that put their trust in him.

ILLUSTRATIVE APPLICATIONS.

Why do ..... the people imagine a vain thing? (v. 1.)—Sure enough! Why do people imagine that they can make anything out of disobeying God? Why do they suppose that they can in the long run by cheating, or stealing, or lying? Why do they think that they shall fare any better than those who have gone before them, if they begin a course of evil-doing? A great many people do have these evil imaginings. They think it is safe for them to buy lottery tickets, or to stake their money in gambling. They are unwilling to believe that there is no hope of their getting safely out of trouble if once they start in the use of money which is not their own. They cannot think that moderate drinking is imminent danger to them. They fancy that in one way or another they shall be taken care of, if they won't take care of themselves; that if they refuse salvation on its only terms so long as they have a choice in the matter, salvation will someday be forced on them when they can refuse no longer. Why do the people imagine a vain thing?"

Set themselves, and..... take counsel together against the Lord (v. 2.) God is on the side of right—actively on that side. God is against the wrong—aggressively so. Whoever decides to do wrong must reckon on God's opposition to his wrong-doing. In all planning and attempting of evil a man practically defies God. His only hope of success is through God's overthrow. This is the plain truth of the sinner's course. Do you expect to carry out your purposes of evil to ultimate victory? If you do, you must triumph over God to begin with. How do you can do that?

He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh (v. 4)—What a laughing-stock these opposers of God make of themselves! And what a serious thing they count their work, at which God laughs! They write a little book which overthrows Genesis. They publish a little paper which shows the wickedness of Christianity. They deliver an address from the chair of a scientific association, which proves the baselessness of revealed religion. They get up a public meeting to declare against Sunday laws and the suppression of vice. In a country town, or in a village store, they tell of the explosion of the myths of religion. They really believe that through their brave efforts God and the devil are dead, and Christianity is nowhere. He that sitteth in the heavens laughs at their performance. And, after all, what more fitting reception of their work than a laugh at its folly?

Yet have I set my King upon my holy hill (v. 6.) All the opposition of evil men, and of foolish ones, have not hindered the kingship of Christ. While the throne is being scoffed at as unworthy of credence, its truths are being accepted far more widely than before. While prayer is held incompatible with the laws of nature, God is answering prayers by the million. While Christianity is being reckoned an antiquated religion Christianity is making new triumphs to the very ends of the earth, and holding a larger share than ever of the people who had already embraced it. Every blow aimed at the religion of Jesus keeps one excavating ancient Troy. Brick has the more antiquated subject, but the Doctor seems to dig up the most things.—*Hawkeye.*

"Were there cats in the ark?" is a question that is troubling the religious editor of an exchange. Certainly there were, and the first thing they said after leaving that ancient craft was, "If there's Ararat around 'round here we want to gopher for it."—*Waterloo Observer.*

A hunter, after long following a grizzly bear in the direction of its den, suddenly abandoned his pursuit, and when questioned as to his motive for doing so said that the trail was getting "too durn fresh."

A Chicago paper says that "a young lady should never stretch her feet out in company." This habit must have caused a good deal of trouble in Chicago.—*Albany Journal.*

A Connecticut man recently said "Lend me a dollar. My wife has left me and I want to advertise that I am not responsible for her debts."

There is a way, and one way only, to start the mule when he has, after mature deliberation, decided to remain *in statu quo*. Fit casters to his feet, and he'll slide along as easy as if descending to Hades.—*Transcript.*

A man who had gone out fishing caught several splendid bass, which he promptly threw back into the river. Being remonstrated with for this apparently foolish act, he replied: "I came out to catch catfish, and when I come out for catfish I want catfish."

Eggs 40 cents a dozen? Are hens aware that the war ended 15 years ago, and the Government resumed specie payments on January 1? Farmers should acquaint their poultry with these facts.—*Norristown Herald.*

It is quite evident that Shylock was in the habit of carrying his papers in his hat, or how else satisfactorily explain his remark, "My deeds upon my head?"—*Boston Transcript.*

Mrs. Dunsbudder fed a tramp yesterday because he wore an old army coat of faded blue. "You went through the war?" said the sympathetic soul. "Yes'm; I was a drummer," and when the fellow reached the sidewalk he concluded the sentence, "for a hardware store in Chicago."—*Utica Observer.*

Strange there are men occupying high positions in business and society in this city, not knowing how to read. This remark is suggested by seeing the number of intelligent looking men utterly unable to decipher the mystic legend, "Please shut the door!"

Young man, devoted to and expressly manufactured for society, clasping his head in agony with, by Jove, how my head aches! Awfully, by Jove." Sympathizing friend, student in Wilson's dental room; "Oh, you'd better have it pulled;" then, after a thoughtful pause —"or filled." Patient moves away with an injured air, and the young dentists smiles after him more thoughtfully than ever.—*Hawkeye.*

An old man named Benjamin West, colored, 100 years of age, claims to have died in Philadelphia last week. We have no hesitation in pronouncing him an imposter. This same old person has died three times before within our recollection, the last time being during the Centennial Spring three years ago. It cannot be done again at this time without our earnest protest. Neither the extreme age nor the respectability of this darkey shall deter us from exposing his fraud, which evidently originated in inflamed vanity.—*New York Graphic.*

"What," asked a facetious prize-fighter, pointing to his opponent, whom he had just "knocked off his pins," "what character in 'Faust' does my friend lying there remind you of?" Upon it being given up he answered, "Me fist-he-feals." When the prostrate man heard this he seemed to receive fresh strength and new courage, and jumping to his feet he knocked the conundrum fiend out of time in the 104th round. And all the spectators said his punishment was deserved.—*Norristown Herald.*

PITH AND POINT.

"The Chinee must go," said Johnny sadly, as he staked his last marble.

An editor, in speaking of a new book, says, "it is bound to sell." Isn't that what they bind all books for generally?—*Biddeford Miniature.*

Five stages of brandy and water: First, brandy and water; second, brandy and war-wer; third, bran war; fourth, brreor; fifth, collapse!—*Punch.*

It requires real grit to beat the grocer down on a 75 cent box of herring, and then to offer $10 for the sake of a little "change," you know.—*N. Y. Express.*

In the album of one of our famous actresses I find this: "A woman seldom fails the day after giving you the key of her heart to change the combination.—*St. Bewe.*

The 22d of February was born on Washington's birthday, and thus became a legal holiday. If it had been on the 6th of March it would have been different.—*Norr. Herald.*

If a fond parent wants to produce the effect of standing out in a Summer noon with his hat off, let him go to the boy's playhouse—he'll get son's truck in abundance there.—*Yonkers Gazette.*

How beautiful are the arrangements of nature. Valentines and maple sugar, the two sweetest things in life, come along together in the most romantic conjunction.—*New Haven Register.*

An old lady recently directed the attention of her husband to a pair of twins, remarking as she did so, "How much those two children do look alike, especially the one this way."—*Utica Observer.*

Tramps are becoming very troublesome in Wisconsin. To the people of Wisconsin we would say, in the language of Dr. Watts—

"Count that day lost whose low, descending sun
Finds no tramp slain with thy breech-loading gun."

—*Albany Journal.*

An exchange gives a receipt for making a Russian name. It is as follows: "Take three alphabets and shake them up in a hat; throw on a table like dice. Pick out those that fell right side up, stick them in a line and add either the 'itch' or 'koff,' and you have a genuine, full-fledged Russian General's name."

Several large trees have died in a neighboring grove where numerous picnics where held last summer. They are supposed to have been "blasted" by young men who scratched their shins and wrecked their pantaloons in climbing them to put up swings at the urgent request of young ladies.—*Norristown Herald.*

"Brethern," said a darkey in a prayer-meeting, "I feel's if I could talk more good in five minutes dan I could do in a year."

Young men and women should not be allowed to stand at the gate these winter nights. It is liable to bring on the new moon-ia.—*Lowell Courier.*

"Yes, I'm a good dancer," said the barber, as he sheared off the blonde locks of a customer. "See me clip the light fantastic tow."—*Syracuse Times.*

Annie Moore's gone away to get married,
And her loss we deeply deplore;
Many hosts of friends here long she tarried,
But she'll never come back Annie Moore.
—*San Francisco News-Letter.*

Young housewife—"What miserable little eggs again! You really must tell them, Jane, to let the hens sit on them a little longer!"—*Fanny Fern.*

'Rock of ages left for me," sang a young married man who was set rocking the baby the other night, while his wife prepared tea.—*Gowanda Enterprise.*

Caushun iz a good thing for a man to hav, but when he has got so much of it that he is afrade to tutch a cast-iron flow for fear it will bite, ignorance iz what's the matter ov him.—*Josh Billings.*

In this country a boy has too much to fight against. First, it's his mother's slipper: next, Fourth of July; then green apples; and, finally, Santa Claus, a rickety pair of skates, and an article in the ice.—*N. Y. Express.*

"The Lord loveth a cheerful giver"; but there's no use chucking a copper cent into the contribution box loud enough to make the folks on the back seat think the communion service has tumbled off the altar.—*Argonaut.*

A little girl of three, wanting to help set the table was given an article to carry, but doubt was expressed as to her ability to reach high enough to place it on the table. By standing on tip-toe it was done, and running to her mother she cried out: "I did it, mamma; but I had to stand on my hind legs."—*Hartford Courant.*

Brick Pomeroy still wanders sadly and drearily around the country lecturing on "greenbacks." And Dr. Schliemann keeps on excavating ancient Troy. Brick has the more antiquated subject, but the Doctor seems to dig up the most things.—*Hawkeye.*

"Where there cats in the ark?" is a question that is troubling the religious editor of an exchange. Certainly there were, and the first thing they said after leaving that ancient craft was, "If there's Ararat around 'round here we want to gopher for it."—*Waterloo Observer.*

A hunter, after long following a grizzly bear in the direction of its den, suddenly abandoned his pursuit, and when questioned as to his motive for doing so said that the trail was getting "too durn fresh."

A Chicago paper says that "a young lady should never stretch her feet out in company." This habit must have caused a good deal of trouble in Chicago.—*Albany Journal.*

A Connecticut man recently said "Lend me a dollar. My wife has left me and I want to advertise that I am not responsible for her debts."

There is a way, and one way only, to start the mule when he has, after mature deliberation, decided to remain *in statu quo*. Fit casters to his feet, and he'll slide along as easy as if descending to Hades.—*Transcript.*

A man who had gone out fishing caught several splendid bass, which he promptly threw back into the river. Being remonstrated with for this apparently foolish act, he replied: "I came out to catch catfish, and when I come out for catfish I want catfish."

Eggs 40 cents a dozen? Are hens aware that the war ended 15 years ago, and the Government resumed specie payments on January 1? Farmers should acquaint their poultry with these facts.—*Norristown Herald.*

It is quite evident that Shylock was in the habit of carrying his papers in his hat, or how else satisfactorily explain his remark, "My deeds upon my head?"—*Boston Transcript.*

Mrs. Dunsbudder fed a tramp yesterday because he wore an old army coat of faded blue. "You went through the war?" said the sympathetic soul. "Yes'm; I was a drummer," and when the fellow reached the sidewalk he concluded the sentence, "for a hardware store in Chicago."—*Utica Observer.*

Strange there are men occupying high positions in business and society in this city, not knowing how to read. This remark is suggested by seeing the number of intelligent looking men utterly unable to decipher the mystic legend, "Please shut the door!"

Young man, devoted to and expressly manufactured for society, clasping his head in agony with, by Jove, how my head aches! Awfully, by Jove." Sympathizing friend, student in Wilson's dental room; "Oh, you'd better have it pulled;" then, after a thoughtful pause —"or filled." Patient moves away with an injured air, and the young dentists smiles after him more thoughtfully than ever.—*Hawkeye.*

An old man named Benjamin West, colored, 100 years of age, claims to have died in Philadelphia last week. We have no hesitation in pronouncing him an imposter. This same old person has died three times before within our recollection, the last time being during the Centennial Spring three years ago. It cannot be done again at this time without our earnest protest. Neither the extreme age nor the respectability of this darkey shall deter us from exposing his fraud, which evidently originated in inflamed vanity.—*New York Graphic.*

"What," asked a facetious prize-fighter, pointing to his opponent, whom he had just "knocked off his pins," "what character in 'Faust' does my friend lying there remind you of?" Upon it being given up he answered, "Me fist-he-feals." When the prostrate man heard this he seemed to receive fresh strength and new courage, and jumping to his feet he knocked the conundrum fiend out of time in the 104th round. And all the spectators said his punishment was deserved.—*Norristown Herald.*

One Touch of Nature.

Newtown (Conn.) Bee.

A true woman's heart is always responsive to the touch of tenderness. Sometimes a very little thing strikes the chord and the whole sympathetic nature is awakened, as a little gleam of sunlight upon a landscape often calls out the beauties of a picture and surprises and charms the beholder. A lady in Newtown took up the last *Bee*, and glancing over the first page her eye fell upon that little poem "Yawcoob Strauss," by Charles F. Adams, and not relishing the style, she turned to her husband and said, "Why do they put such stuff in the papers?" "Stuff!" said he, "just let me read that for you." He took the paper and read the first verse describing the busy childish roguieries of the boy and the vexation and weariness of the parent, till he came to the last verse when the little busybody had found rest in sleep—

"But ven he vas ashleep in bed,
So quiet as a mouse,
I prays dar Lord, 'Make anydings,
But leave dot Yawcob Strauss.'"

the sympathetic chord of a mother's heart was touched, and turning suddenly away she buried her face in her hands and burst into a flood of tears. She had lost two jewels and had seen them hidden away in the grave, and had missed the patter of their tiny feet and the music of their cheery voices. There is a touch of pure nature in those simple words.

Show us the man at a fire who isn't anxious to pull off his coat and ascend to the roof of a building, and we'll show you a man who either has corns on his feet or wants to be President.—*N. Y. Express.*

ELECTRIC BELTS.

MARVELOUS CURES!

Spasms, Nervous Prostration and Paralysis.

TESTIMONY OF A PHYSICIAN.

CHICAGO, ILL., Oct. 28, 1878.

Pulvermacher Galvanic Co.:

Gentlemen—Two weeks of almost constant recurring tetanic spasms, with the use of almost incredible quantities of chloroform and other anæsthetics and narcotics, had reduced me excessively, when I was attacked by a low, nervous fever, which continued three weeks, and prostrated me to a degree rarely recovered from. I was helpless, partially paralyzed; could, with much difficulty, digest a spoonful of the most easily digestible food; and could scarcely sleep at all.

In the above described condition I applied the Belt (suffering at the time, and on the verge of a relapse), and almost immediately I was relieved, fell into a gentle, restful slumber, and awoke refreshed and much strengthened. The improvement continued, and I made a most rapid and satisfactory recovery.

With best of reasons, therefore, I take pleasure in adding my testimony to the value and importance of your invention. Both as a physician and one who has experienced its benefits, I declare its unequivocal excellence.

JOSEPH JUDSON KENDRICK, M. D.

Pulvermacher's ELECTRIC BELTS CURE Nervous Prostration

OFFICE W. C. DAVIS, STOVE FOUNDERS, CINCINNATI, O., Jan. 2, 1879.

Pulvermacher Galvanic Co.:

Gentlemen: For many years my father has been suffering from a nervous affliction, which so grew upon him that he became unable to walk or attend to any business whatever. After having expended hundreds of dollars in medical treatment, both of the best physicians in the City, I was induced to try one of your Electric Belts, which he has used but a few months, and is now in better health than he has been for years, having a good appetite, and being able to walk and move about with a vigor that is perfectly astonishing.

I deem it my duty as well as a pleasure to return grateful thanks for the benefit he has received from your treatment.

Yours, respectfully,
FRED. W. GARDNER.

Pulvermacher's ELECTRIC BELTS CURE

THE WEEKLY BLADE.

TOLEDO BLADE COMPANY,
PROPRIETORS.

TOLEDO O., THURSDAY, FEB. 13 1879.

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THE BLADE.

The present issue of the BLADE contains:

An installment of the very excellent Story for Housekeepers now running in its columns.

A description of the Territory of Dakota.

A full report of the testimony of TILDEN, MARBLE, WEED, and PELTON, before the Potter Sub Committee.

A capital letter from NASBY, in vindication of "the gilelis TILDEN."

Some very readable letters from our Washington correspondents.

A very full and interesting Household department.

The usual departments of Answers to Correspondents, Agricultural, Juvenile and Religious reading.

The latest telegraphic news, editorials on current topics, with an extended variety of choice humor, and entertaining miscellany.

The BLADE has a greater variety than any other weekly paper, and consequently it is always fresh and attractive the whole year through. Show it to your friends, and let them see what we are doing.

SHERMAN seems to be one of those few publicmen whose letters will stand publication.

OUR latest Book Catalogue contains a large number of additions. Send a postal card for a copy.

IF Messrs. CONKLING and ARTHUR have any more of Sec. SHERMAN'S letters they will help his cause by producing them.

IT is thought that the next census will give us 66 more Congressmen. It is not more, but better ones that we want.

SEN. CONKLING is said to bear his defeat with calmness, but makes no secret of his intention to intensify his attacks on the Administration.

CINCINNATI *Saturday Night*: "A writer says Lord BEACONSFIELD is the chief lever in English politics. Of course; isn't he the pry-minister?"

THE pleuro pneumonia scare seems to be subsiding. There was not enough of actual facts to give English cattle raisers much material to work with.

THE correspondent of the Detroit *Post & Tribune*, thinks that SEN. CONKLING'S attack upon Sec. SHERMAN'S private character cost him at least three votes.

ACCORDING to the American rule KAISER WILHELM should been retired about 30 years ago, as he has held a commission in the Prussian army 72 years.

WE are offering *special bargains* on a line of excellent books (slightly shopworn), and will mail a copy of the list to any address free on receipt of a postal card.

PERSONS not subscribers to the BLADE who may receive a copy of this issue are invited to send a postal card for our special clubbing offer for the benefit of three months' subscribers.

THIS is the Mobile *Register*'s defense: "The cipher despatches do not prove that TILDEN was not lawfully elected President. They simply show that there were a number of meddling asses offering their services where they were not needed, and in a manner not asked for nor wanted by men in authority."

THE *Graphic* has a full page illustration of a scene from *H. M. S. Pinafore* with SAMUEL J. TILDEN as the principal figure. He is interrogated:

"Did you ever try to buy an Electoral College?"

Tilden—NEVER!!

Q.—What, Never?

Tilden—Well hardly ever.

MR. NASBY in a letter this week explains how the pure and simple-minded sage of Gramercy Square was deceived and misled by his designing associates. He shows a true spirit of magnanimity in undertaking to defend TILDEN against the charge of attempting to purchase the Presidency, notwithstanding the latter bought his vote at much below the market price.

THE defense of the conspirators before the Potter sub-Committee comprises three position:

If any negotiations for the purchase of Electoral votes were carried on by anybody, everybody else was ignorant of them.

If anybody sent any telegrams, it was so long ago that he had forgotten all about them.

If anybody offered to sell any Electoral votes, such offer was merely a joke, or made by irresponsible parties to other parties equally irresponsible.

THE NEW TROVATORE.

MANRICO TILDEN sings:

Ah! I have ichor to rest me
Deep in some quiet grave,
Where no questions oppress me,
Where no ciphers distress me:
Put all in vain—
All in vain do I crave.

Day and night am I worried,
By dread portents of fear;
All my hours flurried—
All my friends scurried,
What I can do—
What I can do, is more than I know.

AZUCENA PELTON (sings in her sleep):

Back to my boarding place
In joy I am wending;
Uncle has restored my place,
With salary attending.
No more will I wander
From his protecting care,
But every day grow fonder
Of Gramercy Square.

Red fire—music marked and melodramatic. *Azucena* wakes up and shrieks to see Public Opinion, dressed as a hangman, swing *Manrico Tilden* from the highest turret of the castle.

CURTAIN.

CURRENT EVENTS.

The near approach of the 4th of March leaves Congress a comparatively short time in which to work, and creates a corresponding uneasiness and anxiety on the part of the Democratic politicians. The Democrats are making strenuous efforts to force an extra session, beginning immediately after the expiration of the present Congress, the movement coming largely from the new members of the next House, and from the vast army of candidates for positions in the Senate, in which, after the 4th of March, the Democrats will have a majority. It is apparently a part of their game to delay the necessary appropriation bills till the expiration of the present Congress, under the supposition that they will thus compel the President to call an extra session. In this, it need hardly be said, they will experience a serious disappointment, as the President has expressed his determination not to call an extra session till late in the Fall, no matter what bills may fail.

In the House last week another attempt was made by the Democrats, led by Cox of New York, to reduce the army to 17,000 men. This discussion brought out some stirring speeches in defense of the army on the Republican side, and elicited the admission from prominent Democrats that the presence of a few troops at Washington was all that prevented the inauguration of TILDEN.

The House Committee on Invalid Pensions have authorized a report to the House, with a favorable recommendation, of a bill restoring all invalid pensioners dropped from the rolls on account of residence during the rebellion, and providing for their payment from the passage of the bill. The bill enables Mexican war pensioners, residents in the South during the rebellion, to receive their pensions as before the war.

During the recent discussion of the New York Custom appointments, the CONKLING party attempted to make capital against Secretary SHERMAN, by sundry mysterious allusions to a personal letter which he had written to Collector ARTHUR. It was insinuated, if not openly alleged, that the Secretary had attempted to secure the appointment of a son of Judge BRADLEY to a position in the New York Custom House, regardless of his fitness for such position. The Secretary accordingly publishes the letter in question, which proves to be a very harmless document, and which merely recommends the young man on account of his father, and closes by saying, "I have promised Mr. BRADLEY nothing, but leave the matter to you."

Some very interesting information regarding the taking of the next census will be found in a late special dispatch from Washington to the BLADE. It appears that in both Houses the committees who have charge of the subject favor the introduction of new and more comprehensive methods of taking the census of 1880, and that this will involve a much larger outlay than has ever before been made for this purpose. It is believed that the next census will show a population of not less than 47,000,000, which will give an addition of 67 members to the House of Representatives. The Electoral College will then contain 389 votes, making 218 necessary to the election of a President. Of these the North will have 278 and the South 158. It need hardly be added that the coming Presidential election will not be affected by the reapportionment, as the election must be held on the present basis.

We give up this week a considerable portion of our space to the publication of the testimony given during the past week, by TILDEN, MARBLE, WEED and PELTON, before the Potter sub-committee at New York. This testimony from the four leading conspirators in the Democratic scheme to purchase the Presidency is loaded from beginning to end with evasion and declarations of ignorance and bad memory. Confronted by the cipher dispatches which they could not wholly disavow TILDEN'S lieutenants set up various special pleas as to their participation in the affair, nearly all of which are covered by the grounds named. A strong tendency was shown in the testimony of WEED and MARBLE to make PELTON the scapegoat of the negotiations, which it was asserted were carried on without the knowledge of TILDEN, though a portion of them were received in his own house. The testimony of the great defeated himself, given on the 5th, after the others had testified, was intended to harmonize with their statements. On his appearance before the Committee, Mr. TILDEN stated that he had read the dispatches and translations as published in the New York papers, and that he did not recognize a single dispatch which he had ever seen before. He had no knowledge of any such negotiations, and, in a word, "was not informed" as to what was going on between "parties" in New York and other parties in Florida and Louisiana. Some of the dispatches were addressed to his residence, but he never saw any of them, etc. etc.

It seems hardly credible that in the face of all this mass of falsehood and evasion, TILDEN'S friends at Washington are much elated by what they consider his vindication as to connection with cipher dispatches. There is a strong undercurrent of feeling there in his favor among Democrats, as their standard-bearer in 1880. A Southern member of Congress remarked that in the last two weeks he had received 40 letters from his district, in each of which it was suggested that SAM. TILDEN was the best man for the Democracy next year. It is apparent that another effort will be made to foist TILDEN upon his party at the next Democratic Convention, and that his friends will urge that he must be nominated in order to complete his "vindication."

In Ohio the movement for the fusion of the Democratic and National parties in the approaching State campaign is said to be gaining ground. The Nationals have appointed their Convention for the 4th of June, in advance of the Democratic Convention, and it is understood in political circles that they will nominate Gen. EWING for Governor, relying on the Democrats to ratify the nomination. The conference which took place at the Jackson banquet in January, and expressions of Democratic leaders, make the Nationals confident that the Democratic Convention would not oppose EWING by nominating any body else. At the election last fall the Republicans cast 274,000 votes, the Democrats 270,000, and the Nationals 38,000.

Our St. Petersburg dispatches contain very discouraging accounts of the spread of the plague. The Russian Government has established a military cordon about the infected districts. It is thought that the consequent and unavoidable interference with the export of Russian grain, will have the effect to advance the price of American breadstuffs.

A London dispatch gives the outline of the definite treaty which has been concluded between Russia and Turkey, and which declares that peace and cordial relations are established between those nations. It provides that the articles of the San Stefano treaty, which were not modified by the treaty of Berlin, shall remain in force. The mode of payment of the war indemnity and the compensation to the Russian residents of Turkey, who have suffered through the war, is left for future agreement. All prosecutions for aiding either side during the war are abandoned. The protocol declares that the recognition of the treaty of Berlin, in the present treaty, changes neither the character nor range of power. Servia, Montenegro and Roumenia are independent, and are to settle for themselves with the Port in regard to war indemnity.

London dispatches of the 9th state that American shippers need entertain no fear of interference with the business of shipping their cattle to England. A later dispatch, however, says that an order has been issued by the Privy Council revoking after March 3, 1879, article 13 of the foreign animal order, so far as it relates to the United States. Under article 13 American cattle have hitherto been landed without slaughter or quarantine. The present order applies to the ports of Great Britain only.

A SHREWD SCHEME.

Ohio has a Democratic Congressman named RICE. He is a patriot. As such he has the liveliest sympathy with the soldiers of the Union. He is burning with zeal to see a fuller recognition of the noble services of the soldier receive merited reward. Within a few days he has interested himself greatly in the arrears of pension law, and the impression seems to have been widely disseminated that Gen. RICE was the author and finisher of the bill which passed through both house of Congress and became a law only through his active and unremittent exertions. Indeed, a Democratic editor who interviewed Gen. RICE almost immediately on the passage of the bill, seemed to receive some impression of this kind from the General himself, and since that date the Democratic papers, especially those of Ohio, have been commending the course of their representative, and giving him sundry appreciative pats upon the back. This morning's dispatches from Washington state that "Gen. RICE is hard at work at the Pension bill," and that he has had several interviews with commissioner BENTLEY as to the legislation necessary to carry out all the provisions of the arrears of pensions act."

It is certainly quite right and equally creditable that Gen. RICE, as a member of the House Committee on Pensions, should do what he can to see that the new law is properly carried out, and that all needful requirements for its execution are met. But it is possible that Gen. RICE may have led the public into some misapprehension regarding the origin and authorship of this bill, and that this misapprehension he would be glad to see corrected before it should have any undue influence in any coming canvass. For this reason it may be stated that the pension arrears bill was introduced into the House by Mr. CUMMINGS, of Iowa; that the Pension Committee of which Gen. RICE is Chairman, took no action on it; and that just before the close of the session of Congress last summer, it was called up by Mr. HASKILL, of Kansas, and on his motion, passed under a suspension of the rules. The passage of the bill through the Senate on the 15th ult. was largely due to the work and influence of Senator INGALLS. Gen. RICE did introduce a bill granting arrears of pensions and providing, among other things, for the repeal of the statute which prohibits the payment of pensions to those who have borne arms against the United States, and for restoring to the pension rolls the names of all persons who were stricken therefrom on account of disloyalty. This bill made the payment of arrears of pensions to Union soldiers contingent upon the rejecting of the disloyal to the pension rolls. It requires only an ordinary discernment to see that there is a world-wide difference between the CUMMINGS bill which became a law, and the RICE bill which is tainted with disloyalty and reeking with treason. It needs only a knowledge of the facts to show the soldiers of Ohio that this is but an adroit scheme to ride into political popularity on the back of a law which was originated and passed through the labor and influence of others. "Gen. RICE is working hard at the pension bill," and he is also working hard at something else. And since the Democrats must needs have a candidate for Governor in the coming Ohio campaign in order to keep up a party organization, perhaps Gen. RICE may as well receive that dubious honor. But it is only due to the soldiers and citizens of this State that should he go into this contest, he shall not enter it carrying false colors.

BEFORE any money can be obtained on the Arrears-of-Pension law, there will have to be an appropriation made to provide the funds. It was here that the Southern Brigadiers showed their feelings toward their late enemies. The following analysis of the vote upon Barchard's bill to appropriate money illustrates this:

	Affirmative.	Negative
Republicans	109	3
Northern Democrats	28	9
Southern Democrats	3	69
Total	140	81

MR. TILDEN is nothing if not reformatory. This was the backbone of his campaign. Entirely destitute of the higher form of political experience, and wholly without reputation for statecraft, he appealed for votes on the ground that he would instal in the principal places at the disposal of the President purer and abler men than had heretofore occupied those positions. Now he goes upon the witness stand to testify that men were corrupt and untrustworthy in proportion to the intimacy of their relations with him.

THE British Columbians have devised an expedient which they think will be sufficient to stop Chinese immigration. It is to declare all Chinese ports infected, and to make so rigorous a quarantine on vessels bringing moon-eyed lepers as will practically prevent the influx of the cheap labor. It is worthy of remark that it is in those places where there is the most room for an increase of population that the Chinese are least welcomed. For instance, British Columbia, with an area greater than that of France, Germany or Austria, has less than 100,000 population, where those countries have from 30 to 40 millions.

RAILROAD JOBBING SCHEME.

The Senate Committee on Indian Affairs has given its unanimous approval to the railroad jobbing scheme of opening the Indian Territory and destroying the tribal governments existing there. Should the bill to be introduced for that purpose pass, it will be in defiance of treaty regulations, and in opposition to the expressed feelings of every one of the tribes concerned. I seems, however, that now, as in the past, the Indians have no rights which the Government is bound to respect. From the earliest times they have been compelled to surrender their homes against their own desires and without adequate compensation. No sooner do they become satisfied with the new conditions, than lynx eyed speculators see a chance for money making in these possessions, and the red men are obliged to up and away to some other strange locality.

The compelled surrender of their rights has become as monotonous to them as the constant fighting upon the frontier is to the mass of our own people. Their remonstrances have, however, no effect. The leading Cherokees have lately expressed in Washington in the strongest manner, the wishes of the tribes who will be affected by the new change contemplated, and Congress should not ignore them, as it now seems possible that it may, to promote the schemes of any class of men, or to benefit any corporations. The matter may wear a fair seeming under the representations of those who are directly interested in having this territory opened up to the whites, but the fact remains that a treaty has been made and still exists, and should be as binding as those with Canada or any civilized country, so long as the other party has not broken its conditions.

THE INFECTED DISTRICT.

The locality of the plague in Russia is in the lower valley of the Volga, close by the Caspian Sea. The infected district is not large, extending as it does along the river about 150 miles, and being from 40 to 50 miles in width. The quarantine lines begin at Samyarovoska, a village 50 miles from the Caspian Sea, and end at Sarepta. The nearest place of any considerable size is Zaritzin, which contains somewhere between 10,000 and 20,000 inhabitants, and is in direct communication with Moscow, St. Petersburg, and other large cities. As the contagion can be carried as well by water as by rail, and not only the Volga runs through the plague smitten region, but the river Don approaches very near, the gravest apprehensions may well be felt as to its future spread and increase. The report that it had reached any localities outside of the district described, is officially denied, and it is possible that by the greatest vigilance, it may be confined to its present limits.

The principal reason for fearing that this cannot be done is the almost absolute absence of sanitary regulations anywhere outside of the large cities. Nothing is done to secure a proper degree of health among the people, and the neglect of the commonest laws of decency, so far as cleanliness is concerned, makes the whole country a very hotbed for the nourishment of epidemics. The entire absence of effective machinery for local government renders it necessary to wait, even at the most critical periods, for the central authority to move. The evil results of such delays become evident at such times as the present.

MR. TILDEN ON THE STAND.

The only surprising thing about Mr. TILDEN'S testimony given to-day is the transparency of the subterfuges resorted to by him to screen himself. No one has doubted that he would deny a knowledge of the telegrams and disavow all connection with PELTON, WEED, MARBLE, *et al.* But, from Mr. TILDEN'S well-known ability in dark intrigue, and from the momentousness of this occasion to him, it was generally expected that he would develop some masterly stroke of finesse to account for his entire ignorance of their dark doings.

While it was not probable that he could concoct any artifice that would satisfy a rational man of his innocence, it was expected that he would produce something of such plausibility as to answer in a greater or less degree for a basis for partizan pettifogging. He has, however, disappointed very badly those who believed in his fertility of resource, and still worse those who, reckless of whether he was innocent or guilty, expected him to furnish something to give them a ground to stand upon and defend him for the sake of Democracy. He leaves in bad plight both his political friends, and the believers in his astuteness.

THE other side of that Lord ULLIN'S daughter story is slowly but surely coming to light, and each of the developments place old man ULLIN in a better light. The neighbors say that he was a good neighbor—a little close in money matters, it is true, and disposed to throw things at the chickens about garden-making time, but he was a fair provider for his family, and really conscientious about cleaning the snow off his sidewalk early in the morning. His oldest girl had been educated at great expense at Vassar to fit her to grace the wealthiest circles, as the wife of a successful plumber of his acquaintance. On one of her promenades to the depot one day, she picked up with a handkerchief flirtation, a drummer selling codfish by photograph, who parted his hair over his pug nose, wore a warm-hued necktie and claimed to be one of the newly discovered heirs to a big estate in the old country. Old man ULLIN soured on him from the first; he said to Mrs ULLIN that since the failure of the Glasgow Bank had licked up all the money he had got for his hogs, they were entirely too poor to support a son-in-lay in the style in which he had been accustomed. Miss ULLIN had read too many novels to let this trifling obstacle break up her matrimonial project. She and her pug-nosed ADOLPHUS slipped away on the night train on the Canada Southern, leaving a note for the parents stuck to the bureau with a piece of the bride's favorite brand of chewing gum. Old ULLIN shovel a revolver in his vestibule and started in pursuit, swearing that it would be cheaper to stand trial for killing the young rascal now than to maintain him and his family for all time to come. He overlook them at Detroit, but they got on the ferry boat just ahead of him, and the poor old man died of old age waiting for the next boat to come and take him across.

SINCE the French have no "w" in their alphabet, how do they get along with the name of their new Premier—WADDINGTON? Do they, like the great Mr. WELLER, "spell it with a wee, SAMMY; spell it with a wee?"

NASBY.

Mr. Nasby Gives his Opinion on the Investigation of the Cipher Dispatches.

CONFEDRIT X ROADS,
(Wich is in the State uv Kentucky,)
Feb. 11, 1879.

Ther is no limit to the croolty uv the ablisben managers, nun watever. Not content with perventin that gilelis reformer Saml. J. Tilden from buyin the Presidency, they are doin ther level best to fasten the attemptonto him, and to destroy his chances for another effort in 1880.

Wat do these men mean? Don't they know that that Saml. J. is a quiet, gilelis old man, who wuz brought out for the Presidency solely becoz uv his many virchoos, and that it wuz sorely agin his will that he wuz nominatid at all? Don't they know that doorin that long and hotly contested campane he lay ez quiet ez a mouse at his neat but not gaudy home in Gramercy Park, Noo York, payin no attenshun watever to wat wuz goin on, but perfeckly content with watever verdick the people shood bring in? Don't they know that he knows nothin watever uv politikl management, but that his interests wuz put into the hands uv his friends, who did jist watever they pleased, and that he never knowd nothin watever about it, till the votes wuz countid out, and that he never even so much ez looked at a noosepaper doerin the progress uv the battle?

The people don't understand Saml. J. Tilden, and they do him a injoory. He is no manager, and no politshen. He is too warm-bloodid, too impulsive, and too innocent for the devious ways uv modern pollytix. But this isn't generally knowd. His innosence is the coz uv all his trubbles. Hevin okkepied prominent posishuns, wich hev come to him entirely unsolissitid, and becoz uv his strikt integrity, he is surroundid by a gang uv unscroopulus men, who yoose him for ther own purposes. He hez a nefew; a man named Pelton, who trades oneo his uncle's well-known caracter, and who gits him into all sorts uv trubbles. If wuz Pelton wich did all the ralerode wreckin that wuz charged to Tilden's account, and it wuz Pelton who wuz the cheef spirit uv the Tweed ring, and who made all the money out uv it. It wuzn't Tilden at all, and nobody ever sposed it wuz who knowd the good old man.

In this matter he is in the same fix. When Looisiany, Floridy and Oregon wuz in doubt, the gilelis Tilden sed to hisself, "it is well. Ef them States want to vote for Hayes all rite. I am merely the servant uv the people, and wat is their will I must be satisfied with. It is all one to me. I may not be President, but I hev an approvin conshence," and he saddled his hoss and rode out in Central Park, smiling like the innosent man he is.

But this wicked Pelton, and the still wickeder Marble, mizzable men that they are to thus trade on the innosence uv this unsofistakatid old man, they went to Florida and Oregon, and Looisana and South Carolina, and they offered large sums uv money to buy the electral votes uv them States. They never let the gilelis Tilden know nuthin about it, for they knowd that ef it wuz ever breathed to him he would stop it at once, and probably cut em all out uv his will. They knowd the integrity uv the old gentleman so well that they were mighty keerful to keep all knowledge uv it from him.

They hev done all that they kin in the matter to set Mr. Tilden right, and the public ought to be satisfied with it. The biznis wuz all done in his parlor, but without his knowledge. While they wuz arrangin the detales he wuz bizzy readin his noospaper and attendin to his other bizzis; when the buyin up of the Florida Board wuz discussed at his breakfast table he wuz engaged in breakin a soft-biled egg, and never heard a word uv it. They didn't even dare to ask the gilelis old man for money to carry out their nefarious skeem, which would hev shocked him ef he knowd uv it. They simply askt him for a check for $200,000, and the innosent old man give it to 'em without dreamin uv the wickid purpus they wuz to yoose it for. They telegraphed backerd and forerds for months, but the innosent Tilden never knowd nothin about it, tho he paid the bills with money wich he sposed wuz gein for charity and sich.

That this is troo, nobody hez any rite to question. Mr. Tilden sez it is troo, and so does Pelton and Marble. They both testify that the old man didn't know nothin about the buyin uv the electoral votes, and that ef he had knowd it he wood hev stopped it. I make no doubt that John Morrisey, wuz he alive, wood testify to the same thing, and swear to it, on a faro lay-out, wich is why I am sorry that eminent statesman and gambler is dead. His testimony wood be valuable now, to inspire confidence in wat Tilden swears to.

My testimony in this matter ought to hev weight, for I hev no reason to like Mr. Tilden. I kin never forget that in the St. Louis Convenshun wich nominatid him, I got only $400 for my vote for him, wich he ashoored me wuz the highest he wuz payin, when I subsequently asserttaned, when it wuz everlastinly too late, that he had paid ez high ez $2,400 to delegates uv no more importance than myself. Nor can I forgit the brootal anser he made to an appeal for money, that it wuz no yoose to put money into Kentucky wich wuz shoor to go for him anyhow, and that he needid all he had for Noo York, wher votes hed to be hed, and wher they cost money. Sityoosated ez I am with him, my testimony shood be reseved ez amountin to suthin.

Ez badly ez he yoosed me, I want him nominatid in 1880, and hence I depercate these assaults onto him. I shel know better then than I did the last time. Ef ther is enuff left uv him to make a candidate he will hev to hev votes, and he will hev to git em ez he did afore, by buying uv em. He won't fool me with any $400 the next time. I shel know my valy, and the extent uv his means too well for that. The next time he will hev to pay me wat I am wuth, and ef I don't git enuff to keep me till he comes up for re-nominashen agin, I am mistaken.

But this persekooshun ought to stop and must. Mr. Tilden ought not to be made to bear the burdens uv his unscrupulous followers. The wickedness uv a Pelton ought not to be made to obscure the troo goodnis uv a Tilden. The good old man sez he didn't know nothin about the attemot to buy electral votes, and the Amerikin people must take his word. They hev no rite to crush an innosent old man, wich hez won made the prey uv unscrupulus men wich he is so unfortunli ez to hev about him. Besides I like his style. I want him for a candidate in 1880. He hez made ez much money since his fust run ez he spent, and will pay just ez much for the place now ez he did then. He is the favorit uv the Cross-roads.

PETROLEUM V. NASBY,
Champion uv Innosens.

For the Blade.

ANDERSONVILLE

A STORY OF SOUTHERN PRISONS.

The Life of a Prisoner of War in Richmond, Andersonville, Millen, Savannah, Charleston and Florence.

BY A PRIVATE SOLDIER.

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CHAPTER XXIV.

MAY.

In May the long gathering storm of war burst with angry violence all along the line held by the contending armies. The campaign began which was to terminate 11 months later in the obliteration of the Southern Confederacy. May 1 Sigel moved up the Shenandoah Valley with 30 000 men; May 3 Butler began his blundering movement against Petersburg; May 3 the Army of the Potomac left Culpeper, and on the 5 th began its deadly grapple with Lee, in the Wilderness; May 6 Sherman moved out of Chattanooga, and engaged Joe Johnston at Rocky Face Ridge and Tunnel Hill.

Each of these columns lost heavily in prisoners. It could not be otherwise; it was a consequence of the aggressive movements. An army acting offensively usually suffers more from capture than one on the defensive. Our armies were penetrating the enemy's country in close proximity to a determined and vigilant foe. Every scout, every skirmish line, every picket, every foraging party ran the risk of falling into a Rebel trap. This was in addition to the risk of capture in action.

The bulk of the prisoners were taken from the Army of the Potomac. For this there were two reasons: First, that there were many more men in that Army than in any other; and, second, that the entanglement in the dense thickets and shrubbery of the Wilderness enabled both sides to capture great numbers of the other's men. Grant lost in prisoners from May 5 to May 31 7,450; he probably captured two thirds of that number from the Johnnies.

Wirz's headquarters were established in a large log house which had been built in the fort a little distant from the southeast corner of the prison. Every day—and sometimes twice or thrice a day—we would see great squads of prisoners marched up to these headquarters, where they would be searched, their names entered upon the prison records, by clerks (detailed prisoners; few Rebels had the requisite clerical skill) and then be marched into the prison. As they entered, the Rebel guards would stand to arms. The infantry would be in line of battle, the cavalry mounted, and the artillery men standing by their guns, ready to open at the instant with grape and canister.

The disparity between the number coming in from the Army of the Potomac and Western armies was so great, that we Westerners began to take some advantage of it. If we saw a squad of 150 or thereabouts, at the headquarters, we felt pretty certain they were from Sherman, and gathered to meet them, and learn the news from our friends. If there were from 500 to 2 000 we knew they were from the Army of the Potomac, and there were none of our comrades among them. There were three exceptions to this rule while we were in Andersonville. The first was in June, when the drunken and incompetent Sturgis (now Colonel of the 7th U. S. Cavalry) shamefully sacrificed a superb division at Guntown, Miss. The next was after Hood made his desperate attack on Sherman on the 22d of July, and the third was when Stoneman was captured at Macon. At each of these times about 2,000 prisoners were brought in.

By the end of May there were 18,454 prisoners in the stockade. Before the reader dismisses this statement from his mind let him reflect how great a number this is. It is more active, able-bodied young men than there are in any of our leading cities, save New York and Philadelphia. It is more than the average population of an Ohio County. It is four times as many troops as Taylor won the victory of Buena Vista with, and about twice as many as Scott went into battle with at any time in his march to the City of Mexico.

These 18,454 men were cooped up on less than 13 acres of ground, making about 1,500 to the acre. No room could be given up for streets, or for the usual arrangements of a camp, and most kinds of exercise were wholly precluded. The men crowded together like pigs nesting in the woods on cold nights. The ground despite all our efforts, became indescribably filthy, and this condition grew rapidly worse as the season advanced and the sun's rays gained fervency. As it is impossible to describe this adequately, I must again ask the reader to assist with a few comparisons. He has an idea of how much filth is produced on an ordinary city lot in a week, by its occupation by a family say of six persons. Now let him imagine what would be the result if that lot, instead of having upon it six persons, with every appliance for keeping themselves clean, and for removing and concealing filth, was the home of 198 men with none of these appliances.

That he may figure out these proportions for himself, I will repeat some of the elements of the problem: We will say that an average city lot is 50 feet front by 100 deep. This is more front than most of them have, but we will be liberal. This gives us a surface of 5,000 square feet. An acre contains 43,560 square feet. Upon 13 of these acres, we had 18,454 men. After he has found the number of square feet that each man had for sleeping apartment, dining room, kitchen, exercise grounds and outhouses, and decided that nobody could live for any length of time in such contracted space, I will tell him that a few weeks later double that many men were crowded upon that space—that over 35,000 were packed upon those 12½ or 13 acres.

But I will not anticipate. With the warm weather the condition of the swamp in the center of the prison became simply horrible. We hear so much now-a-days of blood poisoning from the effluvia of sinks and sewers; reading it I wonder how a man inside the stockade and into whose nostrils came a breath of that nolsomeness, escaped being carried off by a malignant typhus. In the slimy ooze were billions of white maggots. They would crawl out by thousands on the warm sand, and lying there a few minutes sprout a wing or a pair of them. With these they would essay a clumsy flight, ending by dropping down upon some exposed portion of a man's body and stinging him like a gad fly. Still worse, they would drop into what he was cooking, and the utmost care could not prevent a mess of food from being contaminated with them.

All the water that we had to use was that in the creek which flowed through this seething mass of corruption, and received its seepage. How pure the water was when it came into the stockade was a question. We always believed that it received the drainage from the camps of the guards, a half-a mile away.

A road was made across the swamp along the deadline at the west side, where the creek entered the pen. Those getting water would go to this spot and reach as far up the stream as possible, to get the least filthy water. As they could reach nearly to the deadline this furnished an excuse to such of the guards as were murderously inclined to fire upon them. I think I hazard nothing in saying that for weeks at least one man a day was killed at this place. The murders became monotonous; there was a dreadful sameness to them. A gun would crack; looking up we would see still smoking the muzzle of the musket of one of the guards on either side of the creek. At the same instant would rise a piercing shriek from the man struck, now floundering in the creek in his death agony. Then hosuands of throats would yell out curses and denunciations, and—

"O, give the R bels a furlough!"

It was our belief that every guard who killed a Yankee was rewarded with a 30-day furlough. Mr. Frederick Hollinger, now of Toledo, formerly a member of the 72d Ohio, and captured at Guntown tells me as his introduction to Andersonville life that a few hours after his entry he went to the brook to get a drink, reached out too far, and was fired upon by the guard, who missed him, but killed another man and wounded a second. The other prisoners standing near then attacked him, and beat him nearly to death, for having drawn the fire of the guard.

Nothing could be more inexcusable than these murders. Whatever defense there might be for firing on men who touched the dead line in other parts of the prison, there could be none here. The men had no intention of escaping; they had no designs upon the stockade; they were not leading any party to assault it. They were in every instance killed in the act of reaching out with their cups to dip up a little water.

CHAPTER XXIII.

MORE OF THE SAME SORT.

Let the reader understand that in any strictures I make I do not complain of the necessary hardships of war. I understood fully and accepted the conditions of a soldier's career. My going into the field uniformed and armed implied an intention, at least, of killing, wounding, or capturing, some of the enemy. There was consequently no ground of complaint if I was myself killed, wounded, or captured. If I did not want to take these chances I ought to stay at home. In the same way, I recognized the right of our captors or guards to take proper precautions to prevent our escape. I never questioned for an instant the right of a guard to fire upon those attempting to escape, and to kill them. Had I been posted over prisoners I should have had no compunction about shooting at those trying to get away, and consequently I could not blame the Rebels for doing the same thing. It was a matter of soldierly duty.

But not one of the men assassinated by the guards at Andersonville were trying to escape, nor could they have got away if not arrested by a bullet. In a majority of instances there was not even a transgression of a prison rule, and when there was such a transgression it was a mere needless inadvertance. The slaying of every man there was a foul crime.

The most of this was done by very young boys; some of it by old men. The 26th Alabama and 55th Georgia, had guarded since the opening of the prison, but now they were ordered to the field, and their places filled by the Georgia "Reserves," an organization of boys under, and men over the military age. As Gen Grant aptly phrased it "They had robbed the cradle and the grave," in forming these regiments. The boys, who had grown up from children since the war began, could not comprehend that a Yankee was a human being, or that it was any more wrongful to shoot one than to kill a mad dog. Their young imaginations had been inflamed with stories of the total depravity of the Unionists until they believed it was a meritorious thing to seize every opportunity to exterminate them.

Early one morning I overheard a conversation between two of these youthful guards:

"Say, Bill I heerd that you shot a Yank last night?"

"Now, you just bet I did. God, you just ought to've heerd him holler."

Evidently the juvenile murderer had no more conception that he had committed crime than if he had killed a rattlesnake.

Among those who came in about the last of the month were 2,000 men from Butler's command, lost in the disastrous action of May 16, by which Butler was "bottled up" at Bermuda Hundreds. At that time the Rebel hatred for Butler verged on insanity, and they vented this upon these men who were so luckless—in every sense—as to be in his command. Every pains was taken to mistreat them. Stripped of every article of clothing, equipment, and cooking utensils—everything except a shirt and a pair of pantaloons, they were turned bareheaded and barefooted into the prison, and the worst possible place in the pen hunted out to locate them upon. This was under the bank, at the edge of the swamp and the eastern side of the prison, where the sinks were, and all filth from the upper part of the camp flowed down to them. The sand upon which they lay was dry and burning as that of a tropical desert; they were without the slightest shelter of any kind, the maggot flies swarmed over them, and the stench was frightful. If one of them survived, the germ theory of disease is a hallucination.

The increasing number of prisoners made it necessary for the Rebels to improve their means of guarding and holding us in check. They threw up a line of rifle pits around the stockade, for the infantry guards. At intervals along this were piles of hand grenades, which could be used with fearful effect in case of an outbreak. A strong star fort was thrown up at a little distance from the southwest corner. Eleven field pieces were mounted in this in such a way as to rake the stockade diagonally. A smaller fort, mounting five guns, was built at the northwest corner, and at the northeast and southeast corners were small lunettes, with a couple of howitzers each. Packed as we were we had reason to dread a single round from any of these works, which could not fail to produce fearful havoc.

Still a plot was concocted for a break, and it seemed to the sanguine portion of us that it must prove successful. First a secret society was organized, bound by the most stringent oaths that could be devised. The members of this were divided into companies of 50 men each, under officers regularly elected. The secrecy was assumed in order to shut out Rebel spies and the traitors from a knowledge of the contemplated outbreak. A man named Baker—belonging, I think, to some New York regiment—was the grand organizer of the scheme. We were careful in each of our companies to admit none to membership except such as long acquaintance gave us entire confidence in.

The plan was to dig large tunnels to the stockade at various places, and then hollow out the ground at the foot of the timbers, so that a half dozen or so could be pushed over with a little effort, and make a gap 10 or 12 feet wide. All these were to the fallen at a preconcerted signal, the companies were to rush out and seize the 11 guns of the headquarters fort. The Plymouth Brigade was then to man these and turn them on the camp of the Reserves who, it was imagined would drop their arms and take to their heels after receiving a round or so of shell. We would gather what arms we could, and place them in the hands of the most active and determined. This would give us from 8 000 to 10 000 fairly armed, resolute men, with which we thought we could march to Apalachicola Bay, or to Sherman.

We worked energetically at our tunnels, which soon began to assume such shape as to give assurance that they would answer our expectations in opening the prison walls.

Then came the usual blight to all such enterprises: a spy or a traitor revealed everything to Wirz. One day a guard came in, seized Baker and took him out. What was done with him I know not; we never heard of him after he passed the inner gate.

Immediately afterward all the Sergeants of detachments were summoned outside. There they met Wirz, who made a speech informing them that he knew all the details of the plot, and had made sufficient preparations to defeat it. The guard had been strongly reinforced, and disposed in such a manner as to protect the guns from capture. The stockade had been secured to prevent its falling, even if undermined. He said, in addition, that Sherman had just been badly defeated by Johnston, and driven back across the river, so that any hopes of co operation by him would be ill-founded.

When the Sergeants returned, he caused the following notice to be posted on the gates:

"NOTICE.

"Not wishing to shed the blood of hundreds, not connected with those who concocted a mad plan to force the stockade, and make in this way their escape, I hereby warn the leaders and those who formed themselves into a band to carry out this, that I am in possession of all the facts, and have made my dispositions accordingly, so as to frustrate it. No choice would be left me but to open with grape and canister on the stockade, and what effect this would have, in this densely crowded place, need not be told.

"May 25 1864. H. WIRZ."

The next day a line of tall poles, having white flags, were put up at some little distance from the dead line, and a notice was read to us at roll call that if, except at roll call, any gathering exceeding 100 was observed closer the stockade than these poles, the guns would open with grape and canister without warning.

The number of deaths in the stockade in May was 708, about as many as had been killed in Sherman's army during the same time.

TO BE CONTINUED.

British Disaster in Zulu Land.

A Column Overwhelmed and Destroyed.

Great Excitement in England Over the Catastrophe.

CAPETOWN, *via* St. Vincent, Feb. 10.—On the 21st inst. a British Column, consisting of a port

Correspondence.

LETTERS FROM MAKEPEACE.

Winter Gaieties at Washington—A Presidential Reception—Other Social Happenings—Toilet Notes—Political and Personal

Correspondence of the Toledo Blade.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1, 1879.

With this week the Capital City has resumed its old Winter gayety, which for the first month of the season it conspicuously lacked. On Monday a select party was given by the Chief Signal Officer, Gen. Albert Myer, better known to the public as "Old Probabilities," and Mrs. Myer, and another by Sen. Jones, of Nevada, and his wife, the Senator having on that day attained his 50th year. Tuesday evening the President held his second reception, at which about 1,500 people were present, mostly strangers in the City. The same evening a brilliant ball was given at Mrs. Carroll's, one of the Washingtonian leaders of fashion, to Miss Lillian Carpenter, the beautiful daughter of the lately elected Senator from Wisconsin. Mrs. Carroll has for the last two years been abroad, and the Russian Minister has occupied her house. Here it was that Grand Duke Alexis and Constantine were entertained during their visit two years ago. Miss Carpenter is a remarkably beautiful girl, a blonde, with absolutely faultless complexion, features, and figure. When I saw her at the Midshipmen's ball at Annapolis last Summer I thought her one of the loveliest visions that ever greeted human eyes. She is also accomplished, especially in music. This week has also witnessed an ovation to her father, at Willard's Hotel, on his return to the City—a spirited and successful affair. Gen. Hulbert E. Paine, of Wisconsin, the new Commissioner of Patents, introduced him to the crowd. I do not consider the return of Mr. Carpenter to politics a triumph of the highest form of statesmanship. His life has had its disgurations in spite of his great success. But it is a brilliant *coup d'etat*, there is a dash and a vigor in his methods that one can but admire.

Wednesday was the pinnacle day of the whole week. The weather was delightful and the Cabinet ladies had crowded parlors at their receptions. Only Mrs. McCrary failed to receive, she being quite ill. There were two large lunch parties for ladies during the day, one by Mrs. Simeon B. Chittenden at the Arlington, wife of the wealthy importer and Congressman of Brooklyn. In the evening the representative of another old Washingtonian family gave a brilliant ball, Miss Sara Coleman, to her niece, daughters of a deceased Colonel of the Army; but the crowning event of the day was the entertainment given by the French Minister, Count Outrey, and his wife. She is a beautiful and dressy American lady, and was, when he married her, ten years ago, Miss Helen Russell, of New York, belle. She is sweet, graceful and sparkling in manner, and truly kind in heart. The Count was formerly Ambassador to Japan, and still earlier, was in the Consular service in Persia, and his residence, 1,025 Connecticut avenue, is beautified all through its interior with the rarest ornaments of Japanese, Persian and Egyptian art. The coverings of the furniture are the most exquisite Japanese and Persian goods, and the wainscot hangings are of Egyptian tapestry. The dining room wall—papered richly in chocolate and gilt—is hung around with dainty *Chromo plates*, no two alike. On the walls of the several inter-communicating parlors are splendid satin banners covered with Japanese embroidery, and in one corner of the first parlor stands a cabinet of such unique wonders that I longed for a whole week to examine it in. The carpets are of the richest that Turkish and Persian looms can supply. Into such a scene of luxury and taste imagine the most elegantly dressed women and accomplished men of both continents thronging. Fancy the hostess, radiant in white brocade satin, with court train, ornamented with cascades of point lace, and diamonds lavishly ornamenting her dark hair and her lovely throat. She stood on one side of the door way of the center parlor of the suite, and her courtly husband on the other; and between them entered for two hours a constant procession of the loveliest toilettes that pen can describe. Most all the ladies were in white or very light-tinted silks or silk and gauze combined, and their pearls and diamonds almost wearied the eye. Here is the toilet of Madame Borges, wife of the Brazilian Minister: Rich white silk moiré, with dainty Valenciennes lace; rows of glittering diamonds in her hair, a necklace of great solitaire diamonds on her neck, and diamond pendants in her handsome ears, and other great diamonds sparkling on her wrists. Her gallant husband looked on her with pride, and well he might, this family are very popular in Washington. They are devout Catholics, and benevolent and humane both inside and outside of their own church. A worthy representative of the good Dom Pedro. When he was here in the Centennial year they were in bereavement for Madame Borges' mother, and could not, therefore, give a reception to their sovereign. Most pleasantly Sir Edward Thornton, the British Minister and lady, assumed the duty, and the great parlors of the British Legation, an American brick pile built with English solidity and comfort, were thrown open on that memorable evening to a most stately company. In return for this pleasant act, the Senor and Madame Borges signalized their entrance into society by giving a party on the 6th of this month to the Misses Thorn just back from their debut. It was the day that the term of full mourning for the Princess Alice expired, and Lady Thornton wore an elegant robe of black velvet, and her daughters fine black tissue dresses which become their serious blonde faces well. This was the only very brilliant party that has occurred until the present time. At Madame Borges' party, Wednesday night the Misses Thornton wore white gauze over silk, and heavy strands of pearls about their necks. Pearls were in high favor among all the younger ladies. I noticed one necklace of six rows of pearls as large as small peas. Miss Russell, of New York, who is visiting Miss Waite, wore almost becomingly a antique French dress copied from some antique style, a combination of white satin and blue, the blue vest and skirt adorned with delicate embroidery in white silk mixed with pearls, and at the sides and back of her neck rose a broad and Elizabethan looking collar, made of a network of pearls on a stiff foundation. Miss Waite was in pale blue silk that brought out her brilliant complexion well. I cannot tell you of one out of thirty of the elegant toilettes. All the foreign ladies were radiant in their gayest clothes, and our own were not behind them. Miss Gibbs, a New York lady of large, queenly figure, a sister of Mrs. John Jacob Astor, was visiting Madame Outrey, and stood with her to receive. You will be gratified to know that none of the matronly beauties were more admired than Mrs. Sen. Matthews, whose snowy hair crowns a most winsome face. Her eldest daughter, Miss "Gussie" a debutante, was with her, to whom Mr. Webb Hayes paid gallant attentions during the evening, also pretty Miss Darr, a friend from Ohio.

Besides the hostess, two other American-born Ambassadresses must be omitted, for their beauty and popularity in social circles—Madame de Hegermann, wife of the Danish Minister, who was Miss Moulton, of Boston, and a great favorite in her girlhood, at the Court of the late Napoleon—the Empress Eugenie particularly admired her; and the Baroness Blanc, wife of the Italian Minister, whose marriage in New York City, last Summer, was a great social event. There are now 15 American ladies married to members of the different Legations here, but only these three are Ambassadresses. Our rich and beautiful American girls have a great fascination for these diplomatic foreigners. Has it ever occurred to you, with pride, how few of our young men go abroad for wives in return? They too, like the American type the best; and I approve their taste.

To speak of the men whose brilliant conversation filled the parlors, needs a pen whose enthusiasm has not oozed out on toilets; but I confess that it was to me the superbest part of the pageant. Of the Cabinet there were Secretary Schurz and the Attorney General, both very gallant men in society; the one had a daughter with him, the other his niece; Chief Justice Waite, and Justices Miller, Harlan and Strong represented the Supreme Court; and there were Senators Anthony, Barnside, Howe, Blaine, Matthews, Morrill, Eaton, Edmunds and Lamar; Speaker Randall and Gen. Banks, making, with Mr. Blaine three who had borne borne that high office at the head of the great popular branch of the National Legislature, the wealthy Mr. Chaffee, of Massachusetts, the Congressman much looked up to, also Mr. Cutchenden and Fernando Wood, of New York, and many other names that I would like to mention. Gen Hunter, of Bull Run memory, was a prominent figure, with his long, snowy hair. The foreign gentlemen with their graceful French, or pleasant broken English, were an agreeable variety among these eminent public men. Of course all were the customary evening dress of American gentlemen, except the odd splendor of Ambassador, with his picturesque young Chinese interpreter, who walked in upon the scene clothed in his ermine bordered, mulberry satin robe and tunic, his fur-bordered cap surmounted with the vermilion button of distinguished rank. His entrance seemed a fitting climax to the pageant, and one of the finest bits of the evening was when Sir Edward Thornton, the white-bearded, graceful English Ambassador, Dean of the Diplomatic Corps by virtue of his longest service, went up to salute this latest arrived member of the fraternity, this wise old countryman of Confucius. In the midst of the quaint foreign adornments of the room, with the diamonds and pearls I have described to you flashing all around me in the brilliant light, the whole scene seemed a leaf torn out of the Arabian Nights' Entertainment.

Mr. Blaine was just passing in front of me, his bright face appreciatively taking in the spectacle, and he stopped and said with enthusiasm, "A beautiful scene, this is. It is a moving panorama of all nations!" EMMA JANES.

First Circles at Washington—Secretary Evart's Receptions—Sir Edward Thornton Gives a Ball—Other Social Events—A Victory for Woman's Rights.

Correspondence of the Toledo Blade.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8, 1879.

The week just past has been so full of social events that it is impossible to give more than a hasty glimpse of each. On Monday the new Spanish Minister, Senor Mendez de Vigo, who takes the place left vacant five months ago by the transfer of Senor Mantilla to Constantinople, presented his credentials to the President, and that evening was formally introduced to the other Foreign Ministers by Sir Edward Thornton at the British Legation. Wednesday evening he was present at the second of the diplomatic dinners given by the Secretary of State and Mrs. Evarts, the first having taken place Saturday evening Feb. 1st. The following is the list of guests at the first dinner, 20 in number, with the order in which they sat. I copy it for you from a list given me by Miss Mary Evarts, at my request, which was arranged around a round table diagram of the table, as accurately as her distinguished father would draw up a brief in a $100,000 law case. The Evarts brain runs clear through that still mild family of girls—six in number, though only three are emancipated from school and at home with their parents this Winter. The Secretary and Mrs. Evarts sat facing each other in the central seats, and Miss Mary and Miss Bettie Evarts at either end. The Secretary took Lady Thornton, the British Minister's wife, and seated her at his right. Similarly Sir Edward took out Mrs. Evarts, and occupied a seat at her right. Next to Lady Thornton sat Baron Blanc, the Italian Minister; then Miss Divens, niece of the Attorney General; Count Brunetti, charge d'affaires *ad interim* of Spain; Miss Bettie Evarts, Senor Cerrio, charge d'affaires of the Argentine Republic; Mrs. Payson, wife of the Third Assistant Secretary of State; Senor Zamacona, the Mexican Minister; Mrs. Evarts, Sir Edward Thornton, Miss Scurr, the elder of the two daughters of the Secretary of the Interior; Chevalier von Tavera, charge d'affaires of Austria; Miss (Mary) Thornton, eldest daughter of the British Minister; Mr. Vonden Broeck, charge d'affaires of Belgium; Mr. Payson, Madame Zamacona, Viscount das Nogueiras, Minister of Portugal; the Baroness Blanc, the last named sitting at the Secretary's left. At the second dinner, three days later, there were present of diplomats, besides the new Spanish Minister, the Brazilian Minister and Madame Borges; the Danish Minister and Madame de Hegermann; the Minister from Venezuela, Mr. Dalla Costa; Aide-de-camp Bey, the Turkish Minister; Count Lewenhaupt, of Sweden; the French Minister and Madame Outrey; Baron Schlozer, of Germany; Monsieur de Pestel, of the Netherlands; and the younger Mr. Yoshida of Japan, charge d'affairs in the absence of his cousin of the same name, the Japanese Minister. There were also Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Seward, Mr. Seward being First Assistant Secretary of State, and Mr. William Hunter the Second Assistant Secretary. These with the Secretary and the above-named members of his family made up the second party of 20.

Thursday evening Sir Edward and Lady Thornton gave a ball to their two daughters, who are just out in society—the first ball ever held at the British Legation during the present Minister's occupancy of the post. Friday evening the Italian Minister and the Baroness Blanc, gave the first of three dancing receptions at their residence 1,301 K street. Madame, the Baroness, was a bride last Summer, the beautiful Miss Terry, a maid lady of New York. She is *petite* and young, and her demeanor is full of all the vivacity that is very charming in one of three American ladies who are wives of foreign Ambassadors, the other two being Madame Outrey, who was Miss Helen Russell, of New York, and Madame de Hegermann, who was Mrs. Charles Moulton, of Boston. Twelve other ladies are connected by marriage with the various grades of the resident diplomatic corps, and form a pleasant link between their adopted nations and our own. The scene at the Italian Ministers on Friday evening was like a leaf from the French Courts. French was the prevailing language, and the chatting sounded very voluble to American ears. The Baron and Baroness received with graceful cordiality; the latter was assisted by Madame Borges, of Brazil, both ladies were very richly dressed, as also were the guests. The most beautiful lady present was an American, Miss Barnes, daughter of the late Commodore Barnes and wife of Gen. Wood, tall and graceful, with a chiseled, cordial face, features not too small, and wavy chestnut hair. The Attorney General lingered a long time at her side. The Postmaster General was there with his wife, the handsomest lady of the Cabinet families, and their charming daughter Miss Parsons, daughter of Hon. E. C. Parsons, of the Cleveland *Herald* who is spending a month with Mrs. Sec. Sherman, was there to represent her. She is highly accomplished in the modern languages and a lady of attractive person and manner. Justice Swayne, of the Supreme Court, a next door neighbor of the Blanes, broke over his usual stay-at-home custom and, with Mrs. Swayne attended the party. They received marked attention. The guests, on entering, presented greetings to the host and hostess and her assistant, then to Lady Thornton, a tall, slender, elegant woman who sat on a sofa on the opposite side of the parlor, dressed in rich heavy silk with exquisite lace flounce, then to Mrs. Swayne. The Supreme Court Justices and their families are distinguished favorites in society. They are here for life, and the diplomatic people and others have opportunity to become well acquainted with them. There is a recess of a few weeks in the Supreme Court, and on Saturday Justice and Mrs. Swayne went to New York, where he thinks he can rest in the charge of nurses. He is anxious also to visit Warrenton, Va., where he studied law and was a class mate and room mate of ex-Gov. Foote, of Mississippi, though the latter is the older man.

From the State dinner at Sec. Evarts' on Wednesday, many of the guests went to the reception by Senator and Mrs. Matthews the first of two which signalize their closing month in Washington. This pleasant family will be much regretted. The Senator wears excellently well; he is an able man. I saw him looking over the Congressional Directory the other day to see what college in 1840—when only 15 years of age, Mrs. Matthews's admired and beloved here to an unusual degree. She is an elegant, genial woman, of strong character, with snowy hair and bright, attractive face. She is a social power, somewhat in the way that Mrs. Fish was in the last Administration.

The party at Senator Matthews' was thoroughly enjoyable. I met there, among many delightful people, Mrs. Frances Hodgson Burnet, who writes those wonderful stories of English family life for Scribner's Magazine. She is rather low of stature and has warm, auburn-brown hair, a broad, white forehead, spirited nostrils and expressive eyes and mouth. She was dressed in a becoming blue silk of medium shade, with lace sleeves, showing her plump, white arms through the diaphanous material. We talked a long time about "Janey," in her present serial story of "Haworth's" and of the proud "Miss French." They are both very real people to her. I told her how much I like poor little Janey, in her draggling shawl, and with her sharp, preternatural eye to the main chance. "So do I," said Mrs. Burnett. "Yes," added her handsome husband, "don't you see that she pets her in every line?" Mrs. Gen Lander, the gifted ex actress, was there, and Vinnie Reed—Hoxie in the white satin dress of her May bridal. But to note all the pleasant people of that evening would be to swell this letter far beyond its proper limits. I think every one was sorry when the charming occasion was over.

To-night Senator and Mrs. Blaine are giving the first of three receptions to personal friends, which will take up the remaining Saturday evenings of February. I have staid at home to write you, but am going next time.

The above is but a meager outline of the week's social events. There were others equally characteristic and enjoyable, I doubt not; and the coming week is full in anticipation. I often wish these pleasant things didn't come with such a rush between New Year's and Lent, but could be scattered through the entire Congressional months. To go to two or three parties in a week becomes a little arduous. And just now, too, Congress is at the height of interest, both by day and evening, and to one who loves to study politics as I do, it is a trial to miss a single day.

I cannot forbear to speak to you of the great victory gained for the cause of woman's rights by the vote of both Houses to let women lawyers practice before the Supreme Court. It is a victory not underrated here. Mrs. Belva A. Lockwood, a bright, angular, homely lady lawyer, has engineered the thing through; and, woman like she, had a bouquet of flowers placed on the desk of each of the 40 Senators who voted for the measure, and a nice big basket of them to Sens. Hoar and Sargent, who advocated the bill. To Sen. Hoar, Mrs. Hayes also sent a congratulatory bouquet. Now let the Supreme Court turn around in sly malice and legalize female voting, so that women may sit in Congress among the men who have voted them into the sacred and august bar of the Supreme Court, and the thing will be equalized. The women can stand a great deal of such retaliation among men in power. EMMA JANES.

LETTER FROM BUCKEYE.

Mr Conkling's Fight—The Condition of the Democratic Party—Sen. Edmunds' Resolutions—The Ciphers—The New Pension Law—See Robeson—Indian Appropriations—Tobacco—Snuff—Cigars—Army Bill.

Correspondence Toledo Blade.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8, 1879.

The pitched battle between the Administration and Sen. Conkling has been fought out to the final discomfiture of the great New York Senator. But probably Mr. Conkling will not refuse to be conciliated, since it is clear that no other appointment of the Administration had so much *Merritt* in it. The contest, as is usual in such cases, has left an ugly *wake* behind it and will not have a favorable effect either on the public service or the strength of the Republican party. But, "what cannot be cured must be endured."

Turning from this ill-starred wrangle in the Republican party to the party of *reform* the case is still worse. The Democratic policy of investigation is recoiling against its putative father with tremendous effect. Everybody remembers with what eagerness they began the hunt for abuses. How they started investigation after every possible scent, and wound up with a grand inquisition for fraud. For a year the Potter Committee has been pottering around among the professed soldiers of fortune, moving from place to place, asking for large appropriations and refusing to be content because it could not find the carrion on which it was longing to feed; and when at last, it got on the scent and found that it was not among the Republicans but in its own ranks, how suddenly its ardor abated! Mr. Potter, the Chairman, found some excuse for not going on with the work, Mr. Mahon declined to serve on the sub committee, the dispatches had to be photographed and translated, the Courtier telegrams had to be investigated and the main point was dodged, day after day, till it could be dodged no longer.

Meantime, the Teller Committee has found, without any circumlocution, a vast sink of corruption and fraud which the Potter Committee had systematically ignored, and which is soon to be given to the public with evidence so complete and full as to make even the Democrats hang their heads. The testimony of Mr. Mackey, the Republican candidate for Congress, and of Mr. Campbell, the Democratic or Independent candidate for State Senator, shows a depth of turpitude on the part of the Democratic managers that is scarcely exceeded by the Ku Klux infamy.

There is certainly need of *reform*, but what kind of *reform* would these ballot box stuffers and holders of bribes give us? The man who helped Bill Tweed *reform* New York, who swore himself out of his income tax, and made his bar'l of money

By ways that are dark
And tricks that are vain,

is certainly the fitting representative of such a party. Its moral condition may be gleaned from the conduct of its leading men. Mr. Smith M. Weed, who swore before the Potter Committee, day before yesterday, that he undertook to bribe the State of South Carolina Returning Board and to buy the Presidency for Mr. Tilden and would have succeeded, according to his own statement, if the party had come down with the money, was Mr. Tilden's manager at the last Democratic State Convention in New York, and is now a member of the New York Democratic State Committee. But, what is still more significant is the way in which scoundrelism is endorsed by some of the leading Democratic papers. The New York *Herald*, for instance, says:

"Mr. Weed's account of his proceedings is perfectly straight forward, and there is evidently nothing about them of which he is at all ashamed. Mr. WEED EVIDENTLY ENJOYS THE CONSCIOUSNESS OF HAVING DONE HIS DUTY, and the further consciousness that, if he had had his way, Mr. Tilden, instead of Mr. Hayes," etc., etc.

Are we to infer from this that bribery is regarded as a *Democratic duty*, and that a man who negotiates for the corruption of public officers and draws on his party for $50,000 to pay for a false return, "enjoys the *consciousness of having done his duty*" Are we really to draw the conclusion that bribery is among the much vaunted "Democratic principles," and that buying the Presidency is a legitimate Democratic method on which the successful manipulator has a right to pride himself? If so, Mr. Pelton has added to the laurels acquired by Mr. Weed, for he confessed to conducting the negotiations not only in South Carolina, but in Florida, Louisiana and Oregon, and says that he expected the Democratic General Committee to furnish him the money.

It is pleasant however, to notice that all Democrats do not agree with the *World*, and that the New York *Express* is one of the papers which does not hold Mr Weed's "consciousness of having done his duty," as a thing to call out the approval of the party. It says:

"The details of this detestable and despicable business were given under oath yesterday with shameless insensibility. The fact that this man was a Democrat and has figured conspicuously in the party, only makes his conduct the more reprehensible."

This would seem to show that there is still an element in the Democratic party which is not quite prepared to accept bribery as one of the "Democratic principles," and there might be others who regard tissue ballots and Ku Klux murders as a little irregular.

That the party is weighed down by this "body of death" was very evident in the Senate when Mr Edmunds' resolutions were under discussion. Mr. Morgan made a long speech against them in the usual Democratic strain, and Mr. Bayard belabored them for an hour and a half, while almost nobody listened; but when the vote was reached Mr. Edmunds had an easy victory. This is the more extraordinary as there had been two or three Democratic caucuses to stimulate the opposition, and the substitute had been laboriously formulated under the hand of Sen. Thurman, and the hateful amendments were poison to the whole party. But the Senate not only declared them valid by a vote of 23 to 17, but also declared that "it is the duty of Congress to provide by law for the full and impartial protection of all citizens of the United States legally qualified to vote for Representatives in Congress," and instructed the Judiciary Committee to prepare and report a bill for that purpose.

The new pension bill frightens Congress with the amount of money which it draws from the Treasury, and members are very reluctant to carry it into effect. The latest plan is to appropriate only $10 000,000 for the present year and leave the rest to be provided for by the next Congress. The talk is that the new bill will draw 50 to 100 millions from the Treasury.

The much-investigated Secretary of the Navy—I mean Secretary Robeson—has had a hard battle with Chairman Whitthorne of the Naval Committee, who has left no stone unturned to make him out a high-handed violator of laws. But the Democratic majority could not be dragged into the Chairman's views. They, however, voted a censure on the late Secretary, and ordered the testimony to be referred to the President. The Republicans on the Committee justify the action of the Secretary on the ground of long usage, and add that he acted for the best interests of the Government.

The House yesterday agreed to the Indian appropriation bill as reported by the Committee of Conference and that matter is probably out of the way. The Senate Committee has agreed on a reduction of the tobacco tax to 16 cents and snuff 24 cents; cigars will remain as at present. The House provision repealing the tax on matches is stricken out.

The nomination of Gov. Hartranft yesterday for the Postoffice in Philadelphia disposes of one of the most influential candidates for the Berlin mission, but there is, as yet, no decided indications as to the man who will carry off the prize.

The House is still wrestling with the Army bill which was dodged yesterday to give time for consultation. It will probably be a measure of economy after the fashion of the Pension bill.

The suit in the case of the Arlington estate went against the Government mainly on the ground that the Tax Commissioners made a ruling that no tender of the tax would be accepted unless made by the owner. On referring to the laws of Congress under which the sale was made I find that it explicitly requires any tender to be made by the owner in person. The words are these:

"In all cases where the owner of said lots or parcels of ground shall not, on or before the day of sale *appear in person* before the said Board of Commissioners, and pay the amount of said tax with 10 per cent. interest thereon, etc."

Judges, of course, know how to make the worse appear the better reason, but a plain man would think that the Commissioners were quite right in following the requirements of the law.

Mr. Windom made a forcible and very impressive speech yesterday on his scheme for colonizing the freedmen, who are denied the rights of citizenship guaranteed to them by the recent constitutional amendments. His speech should attract the attention of the country. BUCKEYE.

A WOMAN WHO DARED.

How Mrs. Forbes Recovered the Stock that Was Withheld from Her.

SIOUX CITY, Ia., Feb. 4.—Mrs Andrew Forbes, formerly of this City, now of Chicago, had $10,000 stock in the San Juan Bullion Company. The stock was deposited with Weare & Allison, of this City, and the receipt left with the company in Chicago. The stock was to be on deposit six months, to keep it out of the market. When the time was up, for some reason, the company would not surrender the receipt. Last Friday Mrs. Forbes was in the office of her attorney, H. F. Vallette, 298 LaSalle street, Chicago, when Judge Brawley, attorney for the Bullion Company, was presented with a receipt. Vallette asked to look at it, and, while doing so, Mrs. Forbes snatched the paper from him and, at once taking the cars, came to Sioux City and drew out her stock, which was delivered to her in spite of protesting telegrams. Vallette is in an embarrassing place, and strongly disapproves the action of his client.

SILVER.

Signs of a Radical Change in the Sentiment of the House.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5.—The vote on Whitthorne's bill, which was slipped in by a trick, and which required the Secretary of the Treasury to exchange silver dollars for gold, when presented in sums of $100 and upward, shows that there has been a marked change in the sentiment of the House since the resumption of specie payments. In May last the House passed a bill authorizing the exchange of subsidiary silver coin for legal tender money when presented in sums of $20. This bill, which is now pending before the Senate Finance Committee, is quite as objectionable as the bill presented by Mr. Whitthorne, yet the latter bill not only failed to receive the two-thirds vote required to pass it, but did not receive even a majority vote, the record standing yeas, 101, nays, 136.

Advice to Consumptives.

The celebrated physician, Dr. Paul Memeyer, gives the following valuable suggestions to persons suffering from lung affections: "The patient must with scrupulous conscientiousness insist upon breathing fresh, pure air, and must remember that the air of *closed* rooms is always more or less bad. * * * No man, however uncleanly, would drink muddy, dirty water. A party which occupies a room for hours, breathing the same air, might be compared to a party of bathers drinking the water in which they bathe. The patient must keep the window of his bedroom open. Night air is fresh air without daylight. In close, crowded rooms, the patient suffering from lung complaints breathes consumptive air." By taking those precautions and using Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery and Pleasant Purgative Pellets, fully one-half of the cases of lung complaints would be cured in six months. For cough and irritation of the lungs do not always indicate the presence of consumption, although it may result in that disease, and if consumption has already become deeply seated in the system, this is the most efficient course of treatment that can be pursued outside of any institution that provides special facilities for the treatment of this disease. Dr. Pierce's celebrated Invalids' Hotel is such an institution. Send stamp for descriptive pamphlet containing also a complete treatise upon consumption, explaining its causes, nature, and the best methods of treating it, together with valuable hints concerning diet, clothing, exercise, etc., for consumptives. Address Feeulty of Invalids' and Tourists' Hotel, Buffalo, N. Y.

POTTER SUB-COMMITTEE.

The Examination of Samuel J. Tilden—the Denies Everything—Absurd Stories to Account for His Ignorance of the Telegrams.

NEW YORK, Feb. 8.—At a meeting of the Committee investigating the cipher dispatches, Samuel J. Tilden, immediately upon entering the room, was sworn by Mr. Hunton, who said: "Gov. Tilden, we received your note, expressing your willingness to testify."

Mr. Tilden—I have a cold and can't speak very loud. The publication and translations in the New York papers I have read. I did not recognize a single dispatch, either in the cipher or translation, which I had ever seen before. I never entered into any arrangements to purchase the vote of South Carolina or Florida. I had no information and no suspicion that any such communications were being carried on until I saw the dispatches published in the New York Tribune. I had no knowledge and no dealings with any parties to these negotiations. I never authorized any such negotiations in any form whatever. On the morning of Nov 15th, '76 Mrs. Col. Pelton, mentioned in my presence, that her husband had gone for the day. I did not know he had gone or was going out of the city. He went to Philadelphia I believe. Later in the day I was called on by Mr. Cooper, who was on his way down town, and was told by him that he had received an offer from some party to find out Col. Pelton's relation to the National Committee.

A.—I thought the best way to act in the matter was to stop it; thought the same thing of the Florida case.

Q.—You have said if you had any idea of influencing these Boards venally the last person you would have chosen would been Col. Pelton. Why did you not deem it proper to call Cooper's or Hewitt's attention to the matter and ask them to take take charge of the matter, lest Pelton might compromise the Democratic General Committee?

A.—In the first place I supposed that they had full knowledge and would be able to take care that nothing wrong should be done. The civil law doesn't recognize purposes until they are embodied into actions. The church punishes the purposes of criminals even if they are not carried out. The atmosphere of that time was full of rumors of fraudulent Returning Boards. I declare before God and my country that the votes of Louisiana and Florida were bought, (meaning by the Republicans.) I would scorn and condemn my righteous title if the Democratic party had secured my seat by fraud.

NUMBERING THE PEOPLE.

Interest as to the Census in 1880.

Special Telegram to THE BLADE.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8.—Speculations about the next census are nearly as interesting a topic as the conduct of the coparceners on the stand, and their testimony as to their connection with the cipher telegrams. The census has been the subject of several interesting debates in both Houses. The division of sentiment has generally been as to whether the old fashioned way of taking the census should be adhered to, or whether a more far reaching, comprehensive and expensive method should be adopted. The Census Committees favor the latter and have prepared, with the assistance of statistical experts, very elaborate bills embodying their plans. The opposition to this in the Senate has been led by Sen. Conkling.

The statisticians who have expressed their views upon what the census is to show, unite in believing that it will indicate an increase of 8,500 000 since 1870, or a total of about 47,000,000. If there is no change in the basis of representation this will give 66 additional Members of Congress—without counting new States—and make the House number 350. Instead of 293, as at present. The following table shows the best belief as to the distribution of these gains:

States.	Present number Congress.	Gain 1880.	Members Elect'l after next census.	Gain.
Alabama	8	1	9	1
Arkansas	4	2	6	2
California	4	3	7	3
Colorado	1	...	1	...
Connecticut	4	...	4	6
Delaware	1	...	1	3
Florida	1	...	2	4
Georgia	9	1	10	12
Illinois	19	4	23	25
Indiana	13	3	16	18
Iowa	9	4	13	15
Kansas	3	4	7	9
Kentucky	10	1	11	13
Louisiana	6	...	6	8
Maine	5	...	5	7
Maryland	6	1	7	9
Massachusetts	11	1	12	14
Michigan	9	4	13	15
Minnesota	3	3	6	8
Mississippi	6	1	7	9
Missouri	13	4	17	19
Nebraska	1	2	3	5
Nevada	1	...	1	3
New Hampshire	3	...	3	5
New Jersey	7	1	8	10
New York	33	5	38	40
North Carolina	8	1	9	11
Ohio	20	4	24	26
Oregon	1	1	2	4
Pennsylvania	27	4	31	33
Rhode Island	2	...	2	4
South Carolina	5	...	5	7
Tennessee	10	1	11	13
Texas	6	4	10	12
Vermont	3	...	3	5
Virginia	9	1	10	12
West Virginia	3	1	4	6
Wisconsin	8	4	12	14
Totals	293	66	359	435

It will be observed that Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Louisiana, Maine, Nevada, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, South Carolina and Vermont are not represented as making any gains. It is possible that this may be wrong as regards Colorado and Nevada, but if there is any increase in the basis of representation the balance will certainly lose instead of standing still. With 359 votes in the House the Electoral College will number 455 votes, instead of 369, as at present. Now 185 votes are required to elect a President; then 218 will be necessary. Of these the North will have 278, and the South 158—an increase of 19 for the latter and 47 for the former.

Honesty is the Best Policy.

The remarkable popularity which the Louisiana State Lottery Company has achieved by the integrity and fairness which have characterized all its operations, has created no little astonishment. When the reader reflects, however, that the valuable franchises which the Company have secured last for 25 years from the date of the incorporation in 1868 and for the security of which the inviolable faith of the State of Louisiana is pledged to a contract upon which the State has already received nearly half a million of dollars, he will see that here at least honesty is the best policy. The drawings will go on as usual for the next 15 years. For any further information, apply to M. A. Dauphin, P. O. Box 692, New Orleans, La.

EVERYTHING that tends to increase the yield of any crop is specially interesting to farmers. Mr. Isaiah T. Clymer, a practical Pennsylvania farmer, claims to have made a discovery by which from 25 to 50 per cent. may be gained in the yield of marketable potatoes. His offer in advertising column is therefore worthy of consideration, showing, as it does, his entire confidence both in the value of his system and in the integrity of his fellow-farmers, which we are sure they cannot but appreciate.

SEND $1.00 for Official Blanks to get your Back Pension under New Law. Address WM. E. PRESTON, Cleveland, Ohio.

AGENTS WANTED—Profits large. No novelties. Business respectable. Address, OLDEN, MARKS & CO., Monroe, Mich.

30 Fancy Cards, Chromo, Snowflake, &c., no 2 alike with name, 10c. J. MINKLER & CO., Nassau, N. Y.

52 Perfumed, Snowflake, Chromo, &c., cards, in case, name in gold and jet, 10c. Dime Co., Clintonville, Ct.

60 Perfumed, Floral & Glitt'ring cards, name in gold silver & jet, 10c. Globe Print Co., Northford, Ct.

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CUTICURA.

Cuticura

Humor of the Face and Head Cured—A Terrible Case.

Messrs. WEEKS & POTTER: Gentlemen,—To say that I am grateful, is only a poor expression of my feelings, but it is the best word I can use, for I feel it in every sense of the word. I have been a great sufferer with skin diseases for the last twelve (12) years. My head and face being covered with sores, I could not rest with the burning heat and itching of the parts affected, and was confined to my house for weeks at a time. My disease has been called Eczema, of a most aggravated type, by many physicians, but I doubt if ever truly understood by any of them. It was more like a combination of several skin humors. I have spent much money seeking a cure, and in 1877 I went to Europe, and consulted some of the best physicians in London. I received temporary relief only, for in the spring it would break out again as bad as ever. When I came back to Boston, I was told by many friends that Dr. ——, whose reputation for the cure of those diseases was of the highest order) could cure me. I waited on the doctor; he soon had me. I followed his advice for six months, and I can safely say, without any improvement. I tried other physicians, and among them Dr. ——, of East Boston and Dr. ——, of city proper, but all to no purpose. They did me no good. Their remedies were so ineffectual that at no time did I feel that a cure would result from them.

I have swallowed five hundred arsenic pills, 5-20 grain, and taken bottle after bottle of internal remedies, besides all the external applications I have used, but the effect was the same. I became satisfied that I could not be cured, but might be kept from getting worse.

Now, about three months ago Mr. Meehan, a gentleman well known to Boston people, called my attention to your CUTICURA, and promised wonderful results if I would only make a trial. He told me of his own experience with it, and so persevered on me that I went with him to a drug store and bought two large boxes of CUTICURA, and some Soap, and commenced to use it according to the directions. There was so much humor lodged within the skin, that as soon as I commenced the use of CUTICURA it came to the surface and festered, until vast quantities had come out and greatly intensified my sufferings for about two weeks. But I did not mind this, as I felt that I was going to get rid of the humor so I saw it coming to the surface in such large quantities. After the first two or three weeks' use of this remedy I was greatly encouraged by a gradual lessening of the inflammation of a number of pimples, and I carefully, faithfully and cheerfully followed the directions to the letter, feeling each week nearer a cure, until at the present moment, after three months' use of CUTICURA, a twelve years' case as constant suffering as was ever endured, I can say that I am cured, and pronounce my case the most remarkable on record. I have been so elated with my success that I have stopped men on the street who were afflicted, and told them to get the CUTICURA and it would cure them. This is why I am so grateful to you, for I believe it to be the best and greatest discovery of the age, and that it will cure all who are suffering with these diseases. I may add that I took no internal medicine but the CUTICURA RECOLVENT.

WILLIAM TAYLOR.

BOSTON, Aug. 22, 1878.

Endorsed by Prominent Citizens of Boston.

We know Mr. William Taylor to be a well-known citizen of Boston. His long service in the Legislature of Massachusetts and the Common Council of Boston, and his wide business experience in this city, have given him a large circle of friends and acquaintance who would cheerfully join us in endorsing his trustworthiness if they were invited to do so.

CHAS. H. TAYLOR,
Manager Boston Globe.
T. J. FACEY,
Asst. Attorney Suffolk Co.

Affidavit and Statement of Charles Reynolds.

CHARLES REYNOLDS'S
FASHIONABLE HAIR-DRESSING ROOMS,
29 GREEN STREET, BOSTON.

I hereby certify that I have been a hairdresser for 26 years, am well-known to Bostonians, and during the time have had among my customers many afflicted with various forms of skin and scalp diseases, but have never seen so severe a case as that of William Taylor, whose face, head and neck were covered every part of his face, ears and scalp. I further certify that I have shaved the said Taylor, whenever it has been possible to do so, for the last few years, and during this time there was no abatement in the severity of the disease, or approach to a cure—although, to my knowledge, constantly under medical treatment. Until he began the use of the Cuticura and Cuticura Resolvent, which have effected, in the short

The Household.

Correspondents writing for this Department will please observe the following rules:

1. Write Household Department on the top of page.

2. Give real name and Post Office address—not for publication, unless you wish—but for reference in case it is necessary to address you by mail.

3. Write only on one side of the paper; write plainly as possible, and do not interline.

4. Be as brief as the nature of the subject will allow.

Bitter Sweet's View of It.

Cannot some good and wise person settle the dancing question satisfactorily? What an excitement it is creating in our little town just now. The way it began was this—a young married lady who had been brought up to believe there is no harm in dancing as an amusement, joins the Congregational Church. Now in our little town we have but the two Churches, Congregational and ———, the larger number belonging to the ——— denomination. Some two years after the lady joined the church mentioned, she attends a party given by her sister and where there is dancing, as she has never been forbidden to dance, and firmly believing she is neither breaking the laws of God or those of the Church, also dances. In a very short time after "protracted meetings" begin in our place, and whisperings and slurs as to this lady's hypocrisy also begin, as the lady in question attends their church regularly, thinking it her duty while they are trying to do good. Every now and then she is obliged to hear these ill-natured remarks, but reasoning within herself they have been taught to look at such things differently from what she has, and knowing how impossible it is for all to think or believe alike, she tries to look over and forget it all. While we were having such fine sleighing and the meetings were still in progress, a party of friends drop in on the lady one evening. To make things pleasant, oysters, fruit and coke are served; the evening is spent with music and singing, but therein lies the whole trouble—*the violin is used!* That instrument that is so sure to possess the devil, to some people. (Why cannot people place the devil where he belongs? I fear that would be very near the shape of some human beings; such nosser the fiddling of a human being than the poor misused violin!) The music consisted of organ, violin and banjo, the evening passed pleasantly without thought of harm, there not even being plays or noisy amusement of any kind, as the party consisted mostly of married people, though some of them oppose dancing. Now, the lady of the house, understanding the Bible to say, "there is a time to dance," grants that it means there is a time when it were better not to dance, and conscientiously thinking it would not be right to dance, while her friends are praying, expressly forbids dancing this evening. So there is no dancing. But this our——church friends do not want to believe, think it impossible for people that are not opposed to dancing to have the music, the room, and still resist the temptation. So it is settled in their minds; next morning it is in the stores, the blacksmith shop, harness shop, and where not. So we had opposition last night, church and dance too, proves how much religion that women has. Perfect hypocrite, only joined that church as a form, and because it is considered aristocratic; notwithstanding the truth had been told them, the matter explained—they heard the fiddle that was enough. All these sayings were carefully repeated to the poor innocent woman, until she is nearly distracted; it is impossible for her to attend church with such feelings as she now has, and remembering that she does not judge, hushes the tempter as he whispers "are these christians?" Was there as much harm in that quiet party or even the one where there was dancing and everything passed off so pleasantly as will grow out of this church squabble?

Since writing this I have been reading Maggie on the same subject, and find I cannot lay down the pen as I had intended. Now Maggie you know you do not think dancing a sin in itself—then why not place the sin where it belongs; do you think if those young men with their "breaths perfumed with the contents of the bottle" had been rightly taught from their cradles up to shun all such evil habits, had they been brought up in culture and refinement, would their breaths have been so perfumed? what has dancing to do with it. Again you say "by their fruit ye shall know them." I agree with you there, and now, will you think me presuming, if on so short an acquaintance, I ask you to take my arm this afternoon and go with me calling, and look into the hearts of the fruit, to begin we will just step across the street. In this household there are but two children—young man and woman—this young woman is one of those who pointed the finger of scorn at the lady before mentioned. She is one who holds dancing, for amusement, to be an unpardonable sin. She takes the most active part in the meetings that are being held. Now then, she has for over two years refused to speak to her only brother, though living under the same roof and eating at the same table with him. What does the Bible say here?—"Whosoever saith he loves God and hateth his brother is a liar, and the truth is not in him; for how can he love God, whom he hath not seen, and hate his brother, whom he hath seen?" "By their fruits ye shall know them." Come, we will not tarry long; on an errand like this there can be no impropriety in calling on the sun, so we will just step into the harness shop; this man is another very active member of the church. He was heard to say that anyone who would persuade or influence one of his children to dance, if he could ever bring himself to forgive them, he did not think he could ever be brought to associate with them. This man's boys from the biggest to the least, will rip out such oaths as would make one shudder, but at the same time counsel us to beg the Heavenly Father not to lay the charge at their door, for they know not what they do—they have not been rightly taught at home. What does the Bible say of those who take His name in vain? "By their fruits ye shall know them!" Now, we will call on Mrs. R., the woman who told such glaring falsehoods, who called the lady before mentioned "a perfect hypocrite," because she danced. How neat and clean the room; not an article out of place; see those two pale faced little girls, crouching in a corner and talking in whispers. There are toys and playthings on the what-not before you, but they are not allowed to play with them or enter any part of the house with their playthings. This woman is much opposed to dancing, but occasionally she has a little dance of her own where she uses the broom stick or any kind of missile that comes handy; her tongue the music and two or three scared children the dancers, trying to flee the wrath that has come, and who are well versed in the reign of terror—this woman told such slanderous stories on the parties before mentioned as would pass no lady's lips, let's out of here and shake the very dust from our feet. These people in this house are not strictly opposed to dancing; there was never yet man or woman known to set foot in this house that was not made welcome, that ever heard harm spoken of a neighbor; only good qualities are spoken of here; the most miserable outcast always receives some word of encouragement here. Oh, what a haven of rest is this, and there are many more just such, but it is getting so late. Oh, God, can it be that after all the seeds there has been after the truth, after all our Christian enlightenment, we are still groping so blindly in the dark? Will Thou not help us to find the light?

BITTER SWEET.

In Trouble.

O dear, O dear! Scylla and Charybdis. How shall I steer my frail bark between Barry and Hoosier Girl? Barry thinks I've been abusing him and Hoosier Girl thinks I've been altogether too cordial. I'm not surprised at Barry. It is just like the men to make dismal complaint and then turn around and growl at those who attempt to console them.

Thank you Jette, for your kind words, and I'm sure I'd like to know you. Do live near the Lake Shore Railroad? I think I have friends in the Household, even Mayflower and Hoosier Girl are not very cross at me. I wonder how many tried my biscuit recipe? I heard from one young housekeeper, 16 years old, who thought them splendid. I speak of it again because they are so convenient for those who like warm bread.

To those compelled to yield their teeth this cold weather, I would say, get white-oak bark, steep well and rinse the mouth frequently, or warm but'er-milk held in the mouth will allay the raw, burning feeling attending or following the extraction. If cold has settled in the gums, or yellow blisters appear, take half water and half brandy, hold in the mouth as long as possible. I am opposed to the use of liquor, but since I had my teeth extracted, have used it rather freely as lotion for the face or to be held in the mouth. During all this cold weather I have been teaching, and only once took cold in my gums, and cured that by brandy. I give it, if any choose to use it, all right. When one has a mouthful of pain like that attendant upon loss of teeth, one will seek relief in anything almost.

If your coal fire is low, throw on a tablespoonful of salt, and it will help it very much.

A little ginger put into sausage meat improves the flavor.

Instead of twist tightly I said twist lightly. Now, Mr. type-setter, you do make me ridiculous sometimes, but then my chirography is nearly equal to Horace Greeley's, and I'll forgive you.

English Ivy—I suppose you've essed many an anxious heart by assuring them of Barry's innocence, and I will assure them that he is *not* an old man surrounded by a family, but one upon whose head his twenty-four winters sit lightly and—and—well, I don't like to tell tales out of school, but our correspondence dates back prior to my offensive invitation in the BLADE. Am I pardoned for my "bold letter," my severe, but well-meaning censors?

Mrs. Ripley, thank you for your warm defense of motherless little ones. Doubly kind should be the friends of the wee innocents who will go through life without knowing the sweet mother-love, than which no earthly love is greater. I have had several pupils in my care whose lives have saddened by unkind treatment by those who promised to fill a mother's place to them. Often, often my heart ached for them, and by added tenderness I tried to throw a little sunshine on their shadowed lives. If teachers only knew it, they might help the little one soo much. A kind word, a caress will cheer them. I have one wee, affectionate little midget whose life is hard. A smile, a touch and her whole face shows her appreciation of kindness, and every evening she claims her "good-bye kiss." Such trifles make children happier and better.

Some put oatmeal on to boil in hot, some in cold water; I prefer it stirred into cold water and left boil an hour, but slowly.

Those who have sea foams, fascinator, or anything like that to wash, can make strong ammonia water, take the article, dip it up and down a few times, and it will be clean, besides the colors will be freshened. Ammonia renews ribbons, too. The water, after being used for washing, is the best thing to put on flowers or vines, especially ivy.

Isn't the dancing question nearly exhausted? I doubt if any converts, either way, have been made. Why not let everybody's conscience decide? I am a Quaker, and I believe in doing as I think or as my conscience tells me is right. If my conduct convinces any one that I am right, so much the better; but I do not talk it to convince.

"A man convinced against his will
Is of the same opinion still."

And to do a thing under protest may do as far as example is concerned, but doesn't help the doer. Excess makes harm of anything, even eating; yet who would entirely quit eating because he might eat too much some time, or because bad people ate too? I do not dance, but I don't think less of those who do, for many have asked my opinion on the subject, so here it is: You *can't* please every body; so

"The best way to do is to do as you please,
For your mind, if you have one, will then be at ease"—

That is if you please to do as your conscience tells you.

An old lady says: "Put red pepper in your shoes and you'll not have cold feet."

Some one asked what was good for the hair. In the Spring when the sap runs freely in grape vines, bleed one, take the sap and rub it well in the roots of the hair, brushing with a stiff brush. Repeat this as long as possible. When the sap is gone keep brushing the hair. Don't use any but rubber combs. I use no oil, no wash, nothing but a rubber comb and stiff brush, and my hair is very thick, soft, and fine, and oils itself. Grease makes the hair sticky and nasty. Some eminent physician, I have forgotten who, says, if you take a fine comb and comb the back of your hand every day it will soon scale like dandruff; hence it injures the hair. I do not know, but the more I use a fine comb, the more dandruff.

Where is "Quaker Girl"? Will not her school duties permit an occasional letter to old friends?

I will close by telling the owners of black silk dresses not to brush them but clean them with a soft flannel cloth.

WOODMOSS.

Dewart, Pa.

P. S.—Alcyone, will reply shortly. Thank you, it is just what I need.

From Pansy.

The holidays are past that were freighted with happiness unutterable to the many, while to others they brought woe, sad sad recollections, and to some fresh griefs. I bear in mind, dear friends who sent their beloved eldest son away to a distant city to have his education completed. Soon after his departure, a telegram was sent them announcing his serious illness. The mother hastened to his side, but his sun was forever set before she reached him, and she, almost heart-broken, brought his remains home for burial, and Christmas Day he was laid in his last resting place. Sad indeed it was, but they do not mourn as those without hope. What would our life be without the blessed hope of immortality?

I want to tell all the mothers who have trouble with babies chapping or chafing, that pulverized tea will immediately dry up and heal the sores. Also, the other night when my Shermie boy was crying, oh, so hard with earache, remarking every few minutes, that "we would cry too, if our ears felt as his did" and our remedies failed us, and he "got no better very fast." We put him in a tub of water as hot as he could bear, wrapping a shawl around him carefully so he could have the full benefit of the steam, and it relieved him right away, and he almost went to sleep in the bath.

Another thing. Something over a year ago we were informed that the proper use of sweet potato improved coffee. We doubted it, thinking it did not need improving. We told our worser half about it. He suggested cottonwood chips. But at last we tried the potato experiment. We have always been very particular about our coffee, and we all pronounce it richer, better, and greatest of all, healthier, since we used it mixed with potato, and it is much more economical. This is the way we prepare it: Take the largest sweet potatoes we can get, wash and dry them, cut them in slabs one-eighth of an inch thick, and the strips across in very small squares. Then to spread dry, and when dry, brown; and when brown, I mix with my browned coffee—one half potato and one half coffee. If you are in a hurry, dry in the oven before browning; if not, spread on cloths and dry as you would corn. Please try this, sister housekeepers, before you condemn it.

Here is a good tried recipe for a liniment that relieves neuralgia. Oil sassafras, ½ oz.; oil organum, ½ oz.; tinc. camphor, ½ oz.; chloroform, ½ oz.; alcohol, ½ pt.; sweet spts. nitre, 1 oz.; tinct. opiecum, ½ oz.

Blacking Stoves.

I believe I'll put in a few words now, just to help "Young Housekeeper" a little. If she will get oiled silk and make a loose pair of mitten, with long closed gauntlets, loose enough to pull up over her dress sleeves a little way, she need not have soiled hands or cuffs when she blackens her stove. I don't know how she will protect her face, unless she wears a veil. Half a yard of oiled silk will make the mittens, and can be bought almost anywhere, I guess.

In the meantime, while she is making her mittens, if she should have an intense desire to blacken her stove, an old pair of kid gloves or rubber ones will answer nicely, but are not as good as the others.

Now I will tell her how I treat my stove. Let the fire go out, and the stove get almost cold; mix the blacking as thick as cream, with strong soap suds for wetting. Apply it to the stove and rub dry, if it gets dry before you commence rubbing, it will not shine nicely. This will take quite a long time to do well, but I think it pays. My stove does not get a thorough blacking sometimes for six weeks, and I have never seen a "red face" on it since the first blacking it had: Of course I wet the brush and rub off the dust oftener than that; but do not apply more blacking. We burn gas, and the fire has not been out excepting to blacken the stove, since October last. I know Young Housekeeper will be grateful to me: because, you see, I haven't said a word about the sugar and molasses.

If "that husband of mine" used tobacco and made a spittoon of the stove, like Mrs. Amanda's, I believe I would suggest to him that he get a stove and use it solely as a spittoon while I would have another for cooking on, and each clean his own stove.

I hope Widow No. 2, will never get within speaking distance of my husband, or she may make him believe he cannot be a good, kind husband unless he commences using tobacco, and "the saints preserve us" then.

KATHRINA, Sheffield, Pa.

Shells, and Modes of Exhibiting Them.

Persons residing near "old ocean's sandy shores," or those who have been visiting sea side watering-places during the Summer, have doubtless collected many beautiful shells, pebbles, and other marine treasures, which they would be glad to preserve. A handsome cabinet filled with shells is no mean or inconspicuous article of adornment in a tasteful home.

A cabinet for shells or minerals should never be deep; and if more than one row is to be accommodated, it should be arranged with sloping shelves furnished with narrow ledges, in order to preclude the possibility of the shells sliding down.

A beautiful cabinet of this kind is made as follows: Side pieces, eight inches deep, of half-inch pine, three feet long (or high), united by shelves four feet long—two feet for each half.

The amateur conchologist should be guided in the style and size of the case or cabinet by the nature of his collection. A set of small shallow cases made of card-board will be found an excellent mode of arranging shells, as they may be easily removed and cleansed. These cases, placed upon the receding shelves, are arranged so that the lowest one projects two or three inches in front of the one next above it. They may be lined with tinted paper, pink being the prettiest, or, if preferred, with velveteen, silk, satin, or even tinted muslin. For those lovely shells which have tints of unusual beauty and curious markings, pieces of looking glass placed behind and beneath the specimens will be found especially effective, as by this means the entire shell is reflected and exposed; for delicate white or tinted varieties, black, purple, or crimson velvet linings will be found most desirable. Another pretty arrangement for certain specimens is to cut a series of shield-shaped or rather fanciful tablets, covered with a layer of cotton flannel, glued to the surface, with velvet on the top in the same manner, the edges covered with narrow velvet ribbon glued on the under side—or chenille is pretty, and imparts a soft effect to the delicate shell which it surrounds. A row of such tablets adds materially to the beauty of the cabinet.

The pine case may be stained or ebonized with a decoction of logwood, boiloxed, when dry, by a wash of vinegar in which a quantity of rusty iron has been kept for several days. When dry, the surface is highly polished by repeated coats of copal varnish, rubbed down with a wet flannel pad and powdered pumice stone after each varnishing. On this highly glazed surface apply bright enamelled decalcomanie scraps, such as dolphins, shells, sea-weeds, etc.

The case may be supported on a pair of carved brackets, varnished and bronzed; and in lieu of glass doors, soft merino curtains, furnished with rings, and running on a rod hung on small brackets at the top of the case, will shield the shells from dust. These curtains may be embroidered, or ornamented with decalcomanie.

The shells should be fastened in place with the following cement: Take one ounce of gum tragacanth and half an ounce of best white gum arabic; dissolve each in sufficient water to form a thick mucilage, to which add a few drops of alcohol to prevent moulding.

Cards cut in some tasteful form, marked with the name of the shells and any incident desired to be remembered, should be fastened to the sides of each case or tablet.—*Bazar.*

In the Kitchen.

SUGAR CURED HAMS.—Some one asks for a recipe for making sugar-cured hams. I send you a rule we have used a great many years, and know to be most excellent. If any one of your readers try it this year they will always use it. For each 100 pounds of meat take six pounds of coarse salt, three pounds brown sugar, one ounce of saltpetre. Mix these ingredients thoroughly (in a tub), rub into the fleshy parts of the meat and pack down in a barrel, sprinkle the top with the mixture, put a heavy weight on the meat, then make a strong brine and cover the meat so the brine can be seen on top. (We put hams, shoulders and middlings in the barrel); let them lie about six weeks till thoroughly saturated; then take them out and hang them up to smoke.—M. A. B., Rushville, Ill.

CORN BREAD.—For the benefit of any who may not know how to make the "far-famed Southern corn bread" Shirley Dare mentions, I will give the recipe: first, have a tray, made of buckeye wood, sift some corn meal into it (said meal should be ground on a water power mill) then pour in tolerable hot water, mixing it all the time with your hand, until about as stiff as mush; then take up all you can on your hand, and turn it over, from one to another until formed into an oblong cake, thicker at one end than the other; lay it in the skillet, which must be on the coals and hot; make another just like the first, and lay in the other side of the skillet, and cover with hot lid with coals on top. Bake three-fourths of an hour. Then take up the "Twin Brothers," (as I once heard an Irishman call them,) and send to the table whole, each one breaking off a piece for himself, but if there is any excellence about it, I have failed to discover it.—G. PERSIMMONS, Pine Wood, Tenn.

BONE SOUP.—I will try to answer some of Edith's wants. I make a kind of soup, I have never seen a recipe of; it is good, and economical, too: Take the shin bone of beef (it can be bought for five to ten cents); crack it; I take my largest kettle, it holds 16 quarts; nearly fill it with the bone and cold water; let it come to a boil; skim well; then set back where it will simmer, throwing in a lump of salt; let it simmer all day. I like a red pepper put in; if not liked, put in some black. In the morning bring it to a boil again, then set back, but keep it simmering; it will have boiled away so much that it must have some boiling water added; just before noon toast all your stale pieces of bread, or take crackers. It is a clear, rich soup, which is as good as oyster soup. I am sure Rose Geranium could can it, for when cold it is jelly, and many a cup have I given an unvalid, or taken, as Shirley Dare recommends, to keep up my failing strength. It makes soup for more than one dinner, and will keep for several days if properly cared for. Some like an onion added the second day. The meat is served with the soup.

OAT-MEAL MUSH.—If any one likes oat-meal mush, thick, just add a small handful of cloves before dishing up. Graham makes a splendid mush, only you must not boil after it is cooked; it is unlike either oat-meal or corn-meal in that respect. Also nice pancakes are made of Graham. In making bread, take one-third fine flour, two-thirds Graham, but don't mix dry or knead hard, or it will be dry and hard and like gums better than bread. If not plain enough, let Edith write to—JANE H. HOLLINGWORTH, North Prairie, Wis.

EXCELLENT COOKIES.—One cup meat frymgs, or one cup half and half butter and lard, one cup sugar, one cup cold water, scant teaspoon soda, nutmeg to taste, mix quickly, roll very thin and put with a teacup or bobbin. The cookies will not curl; bake in a quick oven.

Here is a pie that is a favorite with every one that has ever tasted it; and then it is nice to depend upon when getting up a hurried dinner: One half cup vinegar, one-half cup water, one-half cup sugar; put in a stew pan when boiling; stir in a little thickening of water, flour and the yolk of one egg beat together; have your crust ready on the plate; pour the batter on to the depth of one inch; put in the oven until the crust is baked, having meanwhile beaten to a stiff froth the whites of two eggs, the whites of three for two pies, with two spoonfulls of white sugar; spread smoothly on the pie, the thicker the better; place in the top of the oven to brown quickly and quickly, and a most delicious dessert you will find it.

AND now for the coffee cake that cannot be excelled: Get ready some flour with a heaping teaspoonful of soda stirred in; then one cup cold coffee, one cup molasses, one cup sugar, one cup sour milk, one cup shortning (meat frying preferred), one tablespoon ground coffee, one of ground spices; stir in the flour to a good stiff batter, then add one cup English currants, washed, rubbed dry, and a little flour rubbed over them that they may not cause the cake to settle; stir all together well and bake slowly.—MRS. HATTIE L. INMAN, Wellington, Kansas.

BUCKWHEAT CAKES AND READY MADE BISCUITS.—I want to tell some of the ladies of the Household how I make warm lunch this cold weather, for in Summer it would not do at all, for it would be sure to sour. I make a crock full of regular soda biscuit-dough, cover it tightly and set it away in a cool place. It will keep this way nearly or quite a week, and the last baking much nicer than the first. Try it and there will be no heavy biscuits on your table this Winter, and it will be just as handy to have warm bread when you are in a hurry as to have cold. To brown or to cause buckwheat cakes to brown nicely, put a table spoonful of molasses in the batter just before baking. Dear me! what a time I did have with pale faced buckwheat cakes before I learned this simple mode of browning them.

LIKING TIN CANS.—I know it is out of season to talk about fruit cans, but I couldn't find time in the season; so some of you must try to remember again next year, that is if you wan't to be economical. Do not throw your tin cans away as soon as the tin wears off the inside, but take common letter paper and line them. You will have no trouble whatever, for when the paper is dampened it will stick tightly to the can, and keep as nice, if not nicer than glass. I have tried it for two years, used old cans I thought worthless, and never had fruit keep nicer.—BITTER SWEET, Athens, Mo.

GINGER SNAPS.—If the Pennsylvanian Dutch Girl will use the following recipe for ginger snaps, I think she will find that they will *snap* as long as they last: One cup of molasses, one cup of butter, one teaspoonful of soda, one tablespoonful of ginger if you like. I prefer them without, mix stiff, roll thin, bake hard.—LIZZIE HART, Bowling Green, O.

ANOTHER.—Take one teacup of lard or butter, one tea cup of New Orleans molasses, one tablespoonful of ginger, one heaping teaspoonful of soda, flour enough to make a stiff dough, roll quite thin, cut with cake cutter, bake quick. —INDIANA DUTCH GIRL, Fillmore, Ind.

CAKE.—Two cups of white sugar, one cup of sweet milk, three quarters cup of butter, the whites of four eggs, three cups of flour, two and one half tea spoonfuls of baking powder stirred in the flour.—P. O. Box 240, South Toledo, Ohio.

SHORTCAKE.—For making shortcake, prepare the dough as for biscuit, only much richer; roll out to two crusts nearly as thin as for pie crust, put them together, spreading a little butter between, bake in a quick oven; when done place the fruit between the crusts.

To make nice syrup from white sugar, put a little water on it, then boil, putting in a little alum.—KANSAS GIRL, Rochville, Kan.

TO UTILIZE DRY BREAD AND COLD MEAT.—Chop your beef very fine (pork will not do), then soak your bread in cold water till it is soft, then take it in the hands and squeeze as much of the water out as you can, having two-thirds as much bread as meat; then mix the bread and meat thoroughly together, beat three eggs well and mix in; add salt to taste, and grate in enough nutmeg to season nicely; make out in balls about the size of a small biscuit, and fry slowly in butter or cooking fat, till brown on both sides.—WINNIFRED, Toledo.

DRIED BEANS.—Pick and wash the beans, then put them over the fire in cold water. Change the water two or three times before done. Add three or four onions; they give the beans a pleasant flavor. When done, season with butter, pepper and salt, to taste.—S. S., Titusville, Pa.

VEGETABLE OYSTERS.—Scrape, cut in slices, boil till done, season with butter, pepper, and salt. Add a few small crackers, broken to thicken the soup. Cooked in this way they are delicious.—S. S., Titusville, Pa.

PLUM PUDDING.—Take three and a cups of suet, chopped fine, two cups of currants or raisins, two and a half cups sour milk, two teaspoonfuls of soda, five cups of flour; boil three hours; sweeten with sauce made as follows: the whites of three eggs beaten to a stiff froth, butter the size of an egg, sugar enough to make the consistency of thin batter; spice to taste.—S. S., Titusville, Pa.

Will some one in the Household please inform me by letter through the Household where to get the Cuticura Soap, and oblige—S. S., Titusville, Pa.

See previous advertisements in BLADE.

RUSKS.—Make up your sponge for light bread then take out a pint of sponge take a teacupful of sugar and a teacupful of butter, and stir to e her and mix it with the sponge with flour enough to make as stiff as buscuit. Spice to your taste, let it set till it rises like bread then mould out into small biscuit, let it stand till light before baking.—ETTA WILSON, Lawn Ridge, Marshall Co.

Exchanges Wanted.

I have a number of articles to exchange for something new. In the line of sheet music I will mention: Two O'clock in the morning; Softly Now the Light of Day, and the Storm; Still I'll Love Thee; No Friendly Voice to Greet Me; Keep Sunshine Ever in Thy Heart; You'll Never Miss the Water till the Well Runs Dry; Dressed in a Dolly Varden; All in the Mists of the Morning; Grandfather's Clock; Mr. and Mrs. Jones, comic duet; The World is Full of Beauty when the Heart is Full of Love; Gently Sighs the Breeze, duet: Little Bunch of Roses; Whip-poor-Will. These pieces are all in good condition. Parties desiring to exchange please drop me a postal card saying what they have to exchange and what ones of mine they wish. I also have numerous books, fiction, scientific, etc., etc., which I will exchange. Write and tell me what you have to exchange.—LILLA L. COTTON, Oskaloosa, Kans.

I have geological specimens from the lower carboniferous that I desire to exchange for those of any other formation, or for minerals.—I. N. COUR, Blooming-ton, Ind.

I would like some garden seed very much; have not any and feel too poor to buy; have not had any garden to amount to much for two years, consequently have lost all kinds of seed; would like some Mexican sweet corn. Now, I don't ask of any but those who have more than they want themselves. Don't know as I have any thing any one would want. I have lots of patterns, polonaise and wrappers and skirt patterns, a nice coat pattern for a boy of 5 years, also patterns for girls dresses. I saw an offer from a lady of Montana, Ks., last Fall to send flower seed to any who would send postage. I sent her some and offered to send more, but never heard from her. We managed to raise some nice flowers last Summer by making raised bed for them. One or two kind-hearted ladies sent my little girl some seed. One of the same ladies sent her a package this Fall, for which she has our thanks.—R. C. RICE, Tennessee, Ill., McComb Co.

Can any one furnish me with the song commencing "Hush my dear, lie still and slumber, holy angels guard thy bed."—MRS. ALICE SLATER, King's Station, Ind.

We live in a part of the country where the grasshoppers devour everything; they destroyed all my flowers, so I have nothing to exchange. I have forgotten Mr. Daish's address, but if he will send me some grape slips and his address, I will send the postage back to him.—PHEBE A. MORGAN, Cottonwood, Neb.

I wish to make a correction. Our box is 50, instead of 55 as it is given in the paper.—MYRRH.

Allow me to make a correction. It is Conwell's, and not Conweed's dress chart. I have for exchange, nearly new, folding—can be sent by mail—retail price, $5 50. Will send descriptive catalogue, which can be retained if the party does not want it. In sending hair by mail tie up in paper, writing the address plainly on the wrapper or paste it on so it cannot be lost. I have received packages of combings pinned up in a single thickness of newspaper, the address had been written on a separate slip of paper, and also pinned on. The hair was more out than in the wrapper, and the address nearly lost. I only wondered I received it all.—MARY E. STORER, State Centre, Ia.

I want some cabbage, lettuce, and radish seed; also, some five grass and clover seed. I have to exchange, turnip, beet, mangle wurtzel beet, long orange carrot, parsnip, mammoth squash, mammoth sunflower and crooked necked pie-pumpkin seed. I have also petonia, poppy, four o clocks, Paine's feather, marigold and zinna seed, and madaine tubers. I will exchange snap dragon plants and tiger lilies for small plants of climbing honeysuckles, and a root or so of mandrake to plant. Can any one tell me where I can get seed (or small trees) of paw-paw and berberry?—Mrs. M. R. MONROE, Harlon, Shelby Co., Ia.

I have an elegant rabbit, red-bird patterns. Also, a beautiful pillow sham and night dress embroidery patterns. I would like to exchange for flower seed, bulbs and mosses, grasses, ferns from Northern States. I can obtain soon some petrified hickory nuts for exchange, but have no mineral specimens from this State.—Miss IZETTA MCCARTNEY, Hazel Green, Madison Co., Ala.

A short time ago I made an offer in the BLADE to exchange pressed ferns and bleached leaves for geological specimens. I still offer the same exchange. I have a great variety of bleached leaves arranged in a wreath on black velvet. The effect is beautiful, any one can arrange them to suit their own taste. I will add to my list of exchanges fossil rock which is greatly admired.—Miss LILLIE D. HARTZELL, Medina, Rock Island County, Ill.

Dear ladies: I am a little girl six years old. I come to ask if you would please send me some ribbon (or matter of partly worn) to wear on my hair and neck, and also any little ornament you might think would please me. It would please me so much, and in return my mamma would send you their value in either flower seeds or fashionable patterns.—EDNA LOUISE ABBOTT, Box 14, Reading, Hillsdale Co., Mich.

I have a large assortment of braiding patterns, three pillow sham patterns, pin cushions in variety, one night dress yoke, one chemise yoke, one slipper pattern, scissor case pattern, and many other braiding and embroidery patterns, such as would be nice for ladies and children's clothes. I have a few initial letters for braiding. I would like to exchange rare plants, bulbs, seeds, shells, fossils or specimens of coral, or any thing that is nice in fancy work. I have flowers and a variety of bulbs, both hardy Spring and Summer flowering bulbs and a few choice roses and other shrubs, which I would exchange. Send me a list of your plants, seed, or bulbs by mail and I will select such as you want.—ESTHER S. DUGLAY, Cherubusco, Ind.

If Miss M. J. Hill will send me her pattern for a catch all and six months of any nice magazine or paper, I will send her six months of the Ladies' Floral Cabinet," for 1879, and either a pattern of a match-safe, hair-pin-receiver or bracket, of perforated card-board. She will oblige me by dropping a postal to BESSIE L. HUNT, Crodelian, Boulder Co., Colorado.

Any one having the April or June numbers of Peterson's Magazine to sell or exchange, please send card stating what he wants. I wish to thank all who have sent me plants, specimens or patterns. All sending packages please state what you send; I received a package lately wrapped up in muslin with no address. If the one who sent it will drop me a card with address and name of specimens, I will send her something in return for her trouble. I have sent something to all who have sent their address; hope they were received.—T. J. STEVENSON, Patterson's Mills, Washington Co., Pa.

I have nice seed, both choice and common varieties, that I will exchange for bright pieces of fancy work for the table or wall, any kind but splint; that girls love so well to make. I will send from 15 to 30 varieties, according to what I receive. Those who accept my offer please send postal soon with address plainly written; then when you get ready send package with your name on the outside and I will send seeds by return mail. I would also like to hear from any one who will exchange slips of camellia or bouvardia for scottlon lantana or oleander when the proper season arrives.—P. M. D., Box 41, Huntly Grove, McHenry Co., Ill.

Is there any among the Household band who will be so kind as to send something for a little sick boy, not quite three years old, that will both amuse and quiet him? My mind and patience is taxed to the utmost and as I cannot be in the house with him all the time. Anything that you could send will be received with gladness. I do hope those who have plenty—and something to spare will respond, both the many kind readers, and the little boys and girls who can send picture books and toys, etc. It gladdens his little heart—will be thankfully received. I will acknowledge the receipt of anything I receive, please some of the friends who are willing to send such things, write to me. Address, box 12, Middle Mountain, Craig County, Va.

Our Young Folks.

Boyhood and Manhood in Olden Times.

BY MRS. M. G. S.

A bang, a rush, the sudden turning of the door handle, and the unexpected salutation—

"I say, Auntie, how did the fellows go to school in the olden times? I want to know how the thing was done, and what came of it any way."

I looked up from my sewing, and there stood my dear, dirty little nephew, fresh from school, or rather from lunch, the remains of which were sticking to the corners of his rosy mouth, his curls in a tangle, and his hands decorated with a delicitous imitation of tattooing, the materials employed being equal parts of ink, chalk and cherry pie. I was curious to learn how the desire for this particular kind of information had arisen in the juvenile bosom; and this having been gratified by a reference to Jim Stair's Wednesday composition, I actually succeeded in keeping my restless listener still a good half hour. At the end of that time he complimented me by insisting upon my writing the biography which had entertained him, and getting it printed that he might read it when he had "a mind to." As it is strictly true, and also furnishes a vivid picture of the manners of the age, it is possible that other school children may like the simple sketch, and to them I offer it.

About 350 years ago Peter Carew opened his eyes for the first time in the fine old mansion of Mohun's Ottery in England. There were great rejoicings at this event; and his papa, Sir William Carew, knight and baron, and his mamma, the baroness, who was of the high and mighty family of Courtenay, and their friends and servants, down to the veriest herd boy, said and did everything that was proper, each in his or her degree.

Baby didn't care a straw for it all. He gave his undivided attention to eating and sleeping like a veritable little pig; then he varied his amusements by sucking his thumbs, next by performing the same office for his toes; after which he began to roll and kick on the rushes, which served for carpets in those days.

After that his education advanced rapidly. He took to a horse as naturally as a duck to water; and at an amazingly early period he could ride like a cavalier, and make as good a run with the hounds as his papa himself; better, indeed, in one respect, for being so much lighter than that respectable, but heavy gentleman, his animal came much fresher from the work. Then he was as merry as merry could be, and so observant and witty that little ripples of laughter from the women, and rousing ha! ha's! from the men, followed him wherever he went.

This happy state of things continued Peter was 12 years old, when his papa, seeing that he gave promise of great ability, declared that he must begin to study forthwith. Peter did not like this idea, but arguments and persuasions were ingenious, were put into such curious shapes, and were supported in such cunning ways, that they only worked against him with his father; who, thereupon made up his mind that the boy might if he chose, become lord high chancellor of England. So he bade his wife pack a portmanteau with Peter's clothes, and took himself to Exeter where he engaged board for him with an alderman of the city by the name of Hunt; and entered him in the grammar school kept by Mr. Freer.

Now the teachers and parents of those days believed that the more strictly children were kept, and the more they were snubbed and snapped, the better they would be in after life. The lovely Lady Jane Grey, who was for a few days Queen of England, complained that for the slightest infringement of hard rules she was "sharply taunted, cruelly threatened," and had to receive "pinches nips and bobs," with other punishments to revere to be named. Hard, however, set teachers usually were, Mr. Freer had the reputation of being especially cruel; and poor Peter, taken suddenly from his free life, with his mind and heart full of horses, hounds, pigs, rabbits, and all the dear four-footed belongings of Mohun's Ottery, neither curious about books nor ambitious to rise through their means, felt himself badly used. In return he played truant, whereupon Mr. Freer, boiling with rage, informed Mr. Hunt, who restored him to his place, where kicks, and cuffs, lashes and pinching only made him resolve to try it again at the first opportunity. At last, as Peter was running himself under the city walls, the portly alderman came puffing and panting along, when leaping up and scaling the turret just beyond him with the agility of a kid, he looked down and cried:

"Nay, nay, Master Hunt, never trust thy right worshipful person a step further. If thou dost I will jump over, and then I shall break my neck, and thou shalt be hanged because thou makest me to jump.

"He will do it as sure as my name is Thomas," said the alderman to himself, surveying the sturdy figure standing out against the sky; and, seeing one of his servants who had joined him in the pursuit, he bade him ride himself near, and seize the lad when he should descend. Then, half amused and half angry, he returned home.

"'Tis of no use," he thought, "the boy is modest and loving, fears nothing, would give the very clothes from his back to anybody in need, but he won't learn, and as for his staying here to be beaten to a jelly by that brute of a master, I won't have it."

So Mr. Hunt wrote to the knight, who immediately appeared in such a rage that he had neither dignity nor discretion. Without listening to a word in Peter's favor, he tied him with a rope, and ordered one of his servants to lead him about the City and then to Mohun's Ottery; after which he was fastened to a hound and kept in a kennel.

This plan was as unsuccessful as it was silly. After the first burst of anger and the first feeling of humiliation were over Peter's spirits rose again. He commenced his flow of merry talk, and the old house was filled with happy laughter. Papa's ire was too hot to be lasting; and Peter frolicked and hunted to the delight of his dear mamma, who had shed no end of tears on his account. She thought her husband would be satisfied; but no, he must make more trial. This time he sent the boy to London, where he did no better than before; but the master, having a little common sense, begged the knight to take his son away and put him to some other employment.

Circumstances appeared to favor Peter in a high degree. Sir William received a visit from an old acquaintance, a nobleman attached to the French court; who, delighted with the quick wit and easy manners of the boy, offered to treat him as his son if he might but carry him to France as his page. Sir William was pleased with this prospect; and furnishing him with a rich and appropriate wardrobe, bade him "God speed."

For a little while all went smoothly. The nobleman took his charge everywhere and showed him off on all occasions, praising all that he did and said. But he was fickle, selfish and unfaithful. He tired of his toy, for such he considered him, and when his handsome garments became too much worn to appear at court, he not only refused to supply new ones, but actually sent him to his stable to act as a muleteer. The change, great as it was, did not by any means break Peter's heart. It he had less splendor he had more liberty, and as he had not been much elated by prosperity, so he was not unduly depressed by adversity.

The last remnants of clothing were fluttering in rags about Peter, when his kinsman, Mr. John Carew, then high in favor with Henry VIII. of England, made his appearance in Paris, and was immediately entrusted by the King with the command of a hundred horsemen. Little did he dream that one of his house was so near at hand, until the discovery was made in an unpleasant fashion. Dismounting one day at the Palace, amidst a crowd of lackeys, he heard a boy call:—

"English Carew! English Carew!"

At this the hot blood mounted to his face, his eyes flashed and he laid his hand on his sword. But instantly recovering himself, he reflected that he could not be the person addressed, and his curiosity was excited to learn what Carew was meant.

Again the vo

The Farm.

In this department we cordially invite questions, answers and also short communications on agricultural topics, brief crop reports, etc., etc. Contributions should be written legibly and on one side of the paper only and never on the same sheet with subscription letters. The full name and address should in all cases accompany each letter.

For The Blade.

The Time to Work.

Nothing is more beneficial to the farmer than to keep up with the seasons and times, and so be ready to do every thing in its proper time—to plough, sow, reap, and mow just when it will be the proper time to do so. And so, in order to try to have every thing in its time, we must necessarily occupy the present time properly; and what is more necessary at present than to get our wood for the year and have it all seasoned and off our hands when other work is pressing us? It is a good time, also, to look sharp for those lice on our stock, and if we have not banished those hens to do so at once from every place where we keep our calves or stock of any kind. If we have no henhouse, it is high time we were planning to build one. I have a plan which I think would be very nice for a henhouse and pigpen combined which I will give you: First, lay out your ground at least 15 by 50 feet, and as far as your pig pen comes, dig a trench on all sides at least two and a half or three feet deep according to quality of soil; then lay in a wall with water lime and small stone or gravel, raising it about two or three feet from the ground: the object is to have a ground floor and keep out surface water; then put on your roof. Of course, your building is the longest east and west, and the south slant is of glass entirely. Now give your hens the ground floor, also, of course, cutting your pen in two with a partition; have a garret or loft running the whole length on one side, with plenty of straw, and let your hens go above to lay. Have boxes of gravel and pulverized bone and lime for your hens. Then feed them on a variety of food, and get your eggs in the winter when they will bring you a good price. Of course, you are aware that the warmth of the sun will be the main object, and if you have your building right, it will not freeze in the coldest weather. And if you winter pigs, they having a ground floor, will do a great deal better than otherwise, a plank floor having a tendency to cripple them in their legs. I have had them get so they could not walk on their hind legs at all for this reason.

To-day I have been falling trees for wood, and it being a nice job to fall timber so as not to hurt or bruise other trees, I thought I would give you my plan: In the first place, fall those trees that are in the way of others of better quality, to give them a better chance; also those that are hollow and getting no better, having an eye always to the benefit of those you have standing. Having picked your tree, commence by chopping a notch three or four inches deep on the side you want it to fall, taking pains to prevent its hitting other timber while falling. Then take your saw and commence on opposite side of tree, being careful to keep each side about alike; have two wedges to follow up your saw, which will drive your tree straight toward the point you wish to fall it, and you can lay it to a nit's eyeball on the place you wish, and you will not have to swear about it at all, which is no small item, I assure you. I often cut trees in my wood lot expressly to let in the sun to the young timber I wish to stand, causing them to grow faster. This many times can be done to great advantage, cutting those that are scrubby and of poor quality. There is not enough of this done by our farmers at present, as you are all aware. Let us do better in the future than in the past.

A. H. RHODES.

Lundy's Lane Pa.

For the Blade.

Bots in Horses.

I will deem myself well paid for the time spent in writing this article if I can persuade *horse killers* to stay their hands from administering drugs and medicines with a view to kill the "bots," which they suppose are depriving their horses of life. The instinct which is so observable in a horse, as he looks with piteous eye upon his master for help instead of poison, while the pain he endures is expressed in groans, would seem to call for relief instead of aggravation of the disease.

The old modus operandi for killing "bots" (the horse instead) with molasses and sweet milk mixed with a decoction of tobacco or beef brine, or the reeking vitals of a chicken, or a solution of copperas, or some other villainous compound is still resorted to, only to the benefit of the horse market and jockeys. It may startle some of your readers to hear it stated professionally that "bots" never injure an otherwise healthy horse, and therefore need never be meddled with, as no known medicine that will not kill the horse will reach them.

The "bots" are fastened to the *cuticula* or insensible coating of the stomach by hooks attached to the *larvæ* resembling those with which ice is handled, and which cannot be disengaged during the period of incubation. It is not probable that not a thousandth part of the *larvæ* which enters the stomach of a horse ever attach themselves, but pass off with the food. Those that do attach must bide their time, when they will naturally detach and pass off, and the actual power of the sun and atmosphere bursts their shell, when they assume the proportions of the gad fly.

I have seen experiments made in which the *larvæ* were immersed in milk and molasses for the space of an hour and a half, and not one was detached to luxuriate on the tempting bait, the *tentacula* preventing their letting go their hold. Neither prussic acid, muriatic, nitrous or oxalic acid, will destroy the *larvæ*, even by immersing for hours. As a consequence you will kill the horse, before you can effect the latter in any manner. Fire *per se* will not stay in a carrion and so soon as death chill strikes the stomach they begin to eat out and they will cut the coating of the stomach in two hours, and from that circumstance the old fashioned practice was founded.

I have been induced through feelings of *humanity*, to give my professional views on this subject, as I cannot but grieve for the poor brute that is obliged to endure double torture, because the effect of the usual treatment is so little understood, resulting in the death of the horse 99 times in 100. To conclude, what is commonly termed "Bots in Horses," is not a disease; and not the slightest treatment is needed, except when by the actions of the animal it is evident that the *larvæ* is passing off—then injections serve to relieve the animal at once.

H. JONES,
Toledo, O. Veterinary Surgeon.

For the Toledo Blade.

The Uses of Snow.

At this time, when our land is covered with snow from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean, the question is often asked by many persons, "What is the use of snow?" Snow used to be called the poor man's manure before scientific analysis showed it to contain a larger per centage of ammonia than rain. The snow saves too as a protecting mantle to the herbage and the roots of all tender plants against the fierce, bleak winds and severe cold of winter. An examination of snow, made in Siberia a good many years ago, showed that when the temperature of the air was 72 degrees below zero, the temperature of the snow a little above the surface was 29 degrees above zero—over 100 degrees difference. The snow keeps the earth just below its surface in a condition to take on chemical changes which would not happen if the earth was bare and frozen to a great depth. The snow prevents exhalations from the earth, and is a powerful absorbent, retaining and returning to the earth gases arising from vegetable and animal decomposition. The snow, though it falls heavily at the doors of the poor, and brings death and starvation to the fowls of the air and beasts of the field, is yet of incalculable benefit in a climate like ours, and especially at this time when our rivers and creeks are all very low, and our springs and wells drying up in many localities. When it dissolves to water it will give joy to the miners in the far off Western mines, and to the boatmen on our rivers, as well as to vegetation.

CHARLES POTTS.
Trail Lake, Iowa.

For the Toledo Blade.

Turkey Raising.

To the person who wishes to know how to raise turkeys, I would say that they must be ready to take off early—about the 1st of May. I succeed with them better at that time than later, and then there is another advantage, they get to be good-sized birds by the Holidays, and that is the time one usually wishes to dispose of them. I have known them to sell as high as $5 apiece just for a Christmas dinner, and we do not have any idea of disposing of them for less than $1 apiece. But this is not telling you how to rear them. I prefer to have the turkey sit upon the ground, as that gives those very hard shells the moisture necessary to make them hatch well, if they do sit up off the earth it is sometimes well to dip the eggs in warm water two or three days before they should hatch. After they are well done hatching leave them in the nest for three days and feed them nothing at all, then you may give them bugs, worms, flies, clover picked into small bits and it is always best to let them range in an inclosed lot of not more than two acres as they grow older. They can be fed a custard made of milk and egg cooked together morning and evening. Great care must be used in feeding, too much food kills them sooner than anything. They are such little gluttons they will eat until it kills them. I have raised them, and not felt at all. Green worms and grasshoppers stand high on their bill of fare. I have raised them by hand, raised them with a chicken hen with a turkey hen, and knew an old gobbler to raise a brood, and my success has been very good. There always seems to be a weakly one, now and then, that will die with the best of care. Never had any disease among them, except it was done by too much food. If they grow and do well until a month old you can give yourself no further concern about them as they are safe from all things except those lawless things cows and foxes—and those if one has a good dog for animals, they are all right.

Whilst the turks, are quite small be careful not to expose them to no moisture or coldness, as they are very tender indeed, and are very easily chilled. Hoping this may do some of the fraternity some good, I give it for the BLADE.—M. D. T., Witters Springs.

A Good Suggestion.

Why would it not be a good plan for the farmers that read the BLADE to write letters to this Department and make it as interesting as an agricultural journal? Let them state the amount and kinds of grain raised in their locality; also stock of all kinds, prices of each, weather topics, etc. Brother farmers, as this is what this department is for, let us avail us of the opportunity, especially as this is too close a time to subscribe for all kinds of papers. Rather than to do without the BLADE, I can dispense with all other papers, but a few questions on general farm topics come in play once in a while and are indispensable. It will tend to make one acquainted with the different places where he is not already. Farmers, step in and talk a while.—H. R. L., Forest City, Iowa.

Knowing How to Farm.

It is a common thing for the readers of English agricultural journals to see advertisements by young men for an opportunity to learn the business of farming. No compensation is required in any case, and in some the advertiser not only offers to give his time, but expresses a willingness to pay something besides. The contrast between this and the custom in our own country is so marked that it never fails to attract the attention of the reader and to excite comment. The idea of apprenticing oneself to a farmer for the express purpose of learning his "art" would be a very novel one to 999 young men out of every 1,000 in this country. Necessity in England compels a thorough knowledge of agriculture by those who propose to follow it. The soil must be understood and the most approved ways of tilling it must be adopted, else small is the hope of getting from the small sized farms sufficient to remunerate for the time and labor expended and the capital invested, to say nothing of being able to compete in the markets with American products. The English farmer knows that he can raise beef on our Western plains cheaper than he can do it, and he distinctly sees in the near future a possibility of being wholly worsted in that competition under any circumstances. To do the very best he can is his only alternative, and doing the best he can includes the keeping of his soil up to the highest standard of fertility and raising the very best cattle that the world can produce. To do this requires a high order of intelligence and a thorough acquaintance with the general principles and with the details of farming.

In this country there is no such incentive. Our prairies are vast, and as fertile as any soil in the world; and the country is not yet old enough for the soil to have become sufficiently exhausted to excite any apprehension for the future, especially among the unthinking. The more thoughtful, of course, deprecate our usual exhaustive system of cultivating the soil, and foresee trouble unless there is a reform. But no such fears will become common with the masses while the erroneous idea prevails that the country is nearly boundless in extent, and exhaustless in fertility and resources. Plow and sow, and the harvest must ripen, is really the belief of our people. They do not think that intelligence or even industry has any thing to do with it, except to perform these primitive acts. It is this belief that prompts the advice to the unemployed of all classes to go on the farm. It seems to weigh nothing in the minds of such advisors that those whom they advise have often passed the meridian of life when it would be thought the very height of folly to enter upon any new mechanical business, or indeed even to embark in any mercantile business in which they had no experience. Horace Greeley said that a man ought not to change his business after he was 35 years old, unless he was a bachelor, and he stated a very excellent rule of life. By that time habits have become thoroughly fixed, and are usually too stiff to be bent to any new course of living. If our people were crowded upon a small territory as the people of England are, and if the soil needed as much intelligent care as the soil there needs, the entire population would not shrink, as they now seem to, that anybody can be a farmer, and instead of urging an addition to our agricultural ranks from those who are inexperienced in that line some of those who are now farming would find it necessary to increase their knowledge or leave the farm. This would not only be found true of many owners of farms, but it would be alarmingly true of farm help. If our farmers were compelled by the smallness of their farms, the constant necessity of feeding the soil, and by a competition in which natural advantages were against them, to reduce agriculture to a strict science upon every farm, that every foot of land should produce the very greatest yield in that which was most profitable, where would they look for competent help in sufficient numbers? How many farms are there in this country whose owners would be willing to leave them in charge of the help—the best, perhaps, that it has been possible for them to secure. There are thousands of them. A man who can thus be trusted with the care of every department of the farm—who knows what to do and how to do it, in the field, in the barn, in the dairy among the stock—and happily, although too few, there are many such—need never be without a place or to work for low wages. His knowledge of his business is real capital to him, and usually it is not many years before he is his own master and the owner of a farm. But where there is one of this kind, there are ten who take no interest in the discharge of their duties, and such of interest is a prolific source of general ignorance of any business. The day's duties are performed in a mechanical way and the work improperly performed. The eye of the farmer must always be upon such help, even to insure the work being imperfectly done, and at the end of the season losses are found in the neglect to properly cultivate the crops, to properly garner the harvest, in the rough handling of the cows and other stock, and from the general incompetence of men who are as unfit for the farm as they would be for the pulpit, and perhaps more so.—*Western Rural.*

THE CIPHER DISPATCHES.

The Sub-Committee at New York.

Testimony of Weed, Pelton and Marble.

NEW YORK, Feb. 5.—The Potter Sub-Committee, to investigate the cipher dispatches, began work to-day and expects to conclude the special work Saturday. All the members of the Committee were present. Smith M. Weed, of New York, was the first witness, and testified to going to North Carolina under instructions received at the Everett House.

Question—Well now, sir, tell us if you have any knowledge of those cipher dispatches as published in the New York papers?

Answer—I had a cipher when I left here. I had a cipher which I used from both North and South Carolina. I have a written statement which will refresh my memory, if you will permit me either to submit or have it read?

Q Reed—"I object to this, not in a captious manner, but I am inclined to think we want his recollection on this subject." After consultation the Chairman ruled that the witness should proceed.

Witness resumed: Mr. Chairman—"I destroyed both the key and the copies of dispatches, yet I must confess that I think the dispatches in the Tribune are pretty correct. Now I will go back to my trip. I met Cox in South Carolina. From there I telegraphed Henry Havemeyer to the effect that I had nothing to do, and wanted to come home. Upon a response to this, I went back to South Carolina. The published statements that I registered under another name, then my own is false. At Columbia I met Wade Hampton and others.

It was admitted that the State had gone in the interest of the Democrats."

Mr. Hiscock—"Mr. Chairman, let the witness be specific and give names. We do not require admissions, we are now looking forfacts."

Witness—"It is true I was asked to furnish money, and believing that two out of three States had been carried, I determined what to do, and telegraphed to New York, asking if money could be furnished.

Mr. Hunton—"Have you got that telegram?"

Witness—"I have not. I propose to give the bones of the transaction to this Committee. The dispatch between myself and Henry Havemeyer were the only ones I sent. Finally an arrangement, or rather a definite proposition was handed to me, saying that for $50,000 or $80,000 the South Carolina Canvassing Board would make things right, for the Democrats.

I had not, as has been stated, telegraphed that the State had gone for Hayes; that the County returns showed a majority for the Republicans while the present returns showed a majority for the Democrats. I left Columbia for Baltimore. Representatives of the Canvassing Board—Harry Sullivan and others—were on the train. To make matters short, I will state that I positively declined to receive the proposition made by the Canvassing Board to hand over the State to the Democrats.

Witness said there were a number of telegrams in the Tribune pamphlet which he recognized as his, and of which he should speak hereafter; he recognize d one in the blue book, marked No. 28 dated Baltimore, November 20, and addressed to Gen. J. B. Gordon, Columbia: it reads: "Matters tea buy London agent inform Spain and Jo news. W."

Witness—I never sent any such telegram.

The translation of the telegram, however, is given.

"Matters are arranged by the Returning Board: an agent will inform Haskell and telegraph news.

"CHAIRMAN."

On the same date there was another telegram sent from the same place and from the same person, reading:

"Have both: hold on to Cuba until York or April: may be little delay. W."

Witness—This telegram I know nothing about.

A dispatch was shown witness, dated Baltimore, November 20, addressed to General J. B. Gordon, Columbia. The translation is as follows:

"Matters arranged by returning board agent. Inform Haskell and telegraph news."

Witness says he never sent any such telegram, and would say that the *Tribune* does not lay positive claim to the accuracy of these cipher messages.

Chairman—On the same date there was another telegram sent from the same place and from the same persons. Reading as translated:

"Have cours hold on to electoral votes until fixed, or failure may be little delay."

Witness said he knew nothing about this telegram.

The translation of telegram No. 25, was then read by the witness, as follows:

"COLUMBIA, NOV. 8.

Henry Havemeyer, 15 West Fifteenth street, New York:

"The majority of the Board have been secured. The cost is $80,000, to be sent as follows: One parcel of $55,000; one of $10,000, and one of $5,000. All to be $500 or $1,000 bills. The notes to be deposited as the parties accept, and given up upon the vote of the land of Hampton, (i. e.: the State of South Carolina) being given to Tilden's friends. The three packs should be sent without inscription; and to-night, unless you should receive a telegram from me countermanding it. Shall try to secure everything by the plan of deposit; the friends of Chamberlin and Bavarid are here in force, and I fear their money, and the careful watching and intimidation of the Board. For God's sake, let it go, if you can. Be safe in Florida as in Africa, (Do this at once, and have the cash ready to reach Baltimore Sunday night. Telegraph decidedly whether it will be done.) E. W."

Mr. Weed said that he could not tell what parts of this translation were correct and what were not; from his recollection of the events as they occurred, he thought the translation was substantially correct, though his memory was that the sum named was $30,000 instead of $80,000; he thought that one sentence should read, 'For God's sake let it go if you can be safe in Florida or Africa," without any period after the word "can." His idea was that the thing could not be done if it could be avoided. He was wholly unable to recollect the meaning of any particular word in the cipher, as the meaning was purely arbitrary.

Chairman—Look at telegram No. 29, from Baltimore, under date of November 20; it reads:

"Have count; hold on to electoral votes until fixed, or failure may be little delay." Is that yours?

Witness—It purports to be mine, but by no means conveys the idea I had intended.

Chairman—Here is another from Columbia, dated November 21. It is addressed to you at the Everett House, and reads:

"Pope answered you last night. Send for Barnum's. We think both Courts will close to-morrow, and put Nanle's majority in the House, and probably acquire Cuba electors—SPAIN."

Q—Do you recollect having received this telegram?

A.—I never received any such communication. Besides, I have no idea who Pope is.

Q.—Are any of your dispatches signed Mead?

A.—Yes; there is one containing 40 words.

Witness then took the file of telegrams, and by the direction of the Chairman placed an envelope over each one that he had sent.

Chairman—Look at No. 1, dated Columbia, Nov. 16. The translation reads: "Henry Havemeyer, 15 West Seventeenth street, New York:

"Am confident that Florida is the State where the greatest exertions should be made. Have you a man with full power? Chances are not one in 20 here, but am working for that one. Chamberlain, Kellogg and Stearns are in close communication, and in concert. The authority I telegraphed for this morning is all to be conditional on the success."

Witness—I have to repeat what I have already said. I cannot recognize those dispatches as being proper translations or interpretations of the lettered meaning

Question—Who is this man Solomon with whom you propose to treat as to the purchase of the Canvassing Board?

A.—He was a large grocer there and has a great deal of influence.

Q.—By whom were you introduced to him?

A.—I cannot now remember. It was generally known who I was and I suppose he must have addressed me without waiting for a formal introduction. I was not long there until I found that Deen and Solomon were in close conference. I saw Solomon was anxious that the act should be consummated, as the others were pressing hard.

Q.—What do you mean, money or office?

A.—My impression is that he meant both. The manner in which he proposed to receive the money satisfied me that he meant business. His remark, as near as I can remember, was that the money should not be paid over until the goods were delivered.

Weed said he never had anything to do with a plot which the Tribune asserted was formed to buy four members of the South Carolina Legislature for $20,000, and having thus obtained control of the State Government, to put the Hayes electors in jail and lock them up in separate cells until the day for casting the electoral votes had passed. He had never any knowledge of such a plot. The following translation of the cipher dispatches sent by him was then submitted to witness, the date and address being the same as those of the former dispatch:

"Telegram received too late to answer last night. Don't quite understand. Do you want one to go to Howe or Stearns, (Florida)? The Board, late last night, demanded $75,000 for giving us two or three electors. The interceder will want something besides—think $10,000. What shall I do? Get no aid from the Hampton party, who, to say the least, are indifferent."

Weed said that the tenor of the dispatch was in accordance with the events which occurred. The "interceder" mentioned was Hardly Solomon. The reference to the Hampton party accorded with the impression of many persons at that time that Hampton and his friends cared much more about the State ticket than the vote for President. The dispatch to Gen. Gordon, already mentioned as mistranslated, was entirely in reference to the court matters.

A number of telegrams were read, many of which the witness had no recognition of, and the cipher words in some others he could not explain.

Witness to Chairman—The proposition as to the buying out of the Returning Board was submitted to Mr. Havemeyer, and at first I was led to the belief that the money would not be sent to me. It fell through, however. Outside of Mr. Havemeyer, I don't think I ever mentioned the matter of the negotiation to a single soul.

To Mr. Reed—A few days after the election I came on to New York and received a telegram, from whom I cannot state, requesting me to go to South Carolina. I called into the Everett House and there I got my cipher.

Q.—Who gave it to you?

A.—I really forgot, but my impression is that it was Pelton.

Pelton was Secretary of the National Democratic Committee, was he not?

A.—He was.

Q.—Then you got it from him?

A.—I suppose so, but I cannot say positively as to the correctness of the Tribune ciphers. I cannot give an expression for the reason that I have not read them.

Mr. Reed—Did you suppose Mr. Pelton could raise the $80,000 requisite?

A.—I did. I knew that the Executive Committee of the National Democratic party would have given the money if he asked for it. Subsequently I met Pelton in Baltimore, when he told me that the money could not be had. Mr. Tilden thought me a trifler in very terrible terms for having attempted to make a trade with the Returning Board, and repeated his positive abhorrence of any such a scheme.

Q.—Mr. Pelton went to Canada, did he not?

A.—He did, but it was long before the publication of the cipher dispatches, and he went under medical advice having suffered considerably from the excitement and incidental troubles attending the elections. Mr. Pelton was the only one with whom I had any conversation before I left for South Carolina, and I looked upon him as being the head of the movement. Mr. Solomon showed me a number of telegrams from Republican parties, and he said, trying to buy him out, but he would not permit me to see the signatures.

Q.—Why did you change your name?

A.—Because I was afraid that the Western Union Telegraph Company would tamper with our messages. They knew me to be a politician, hence the precaution taken.

Mr. Hiscock—You are and have been known as a great friend of Mr. Tilden's politically?

A.—I was and a very active friend of his both before and after his nomination.

Q.—When you got to the Everett House, after your return from Baltimore, who did you meet?

A.—I met Wm. L. Scott, of Erie, Pa. I think Abraham S. Hewit, of this city, Edward Cooper, new Mayor of this city, and Mr. Pelton. The latter gave me instructions to send or direct all my telegrams to Mr. Mr. Henry Havemeyer, from whom he could get copies. On the occasion of Mr. Pelton's visit to me in Baltimore, he told me he expected to receive the money that morning from Mr. Edward Cooper, but, as I have already stated, the money was not forthcoming, and the whole movement fell through.

The Committee then adjourned for an evening session, when the examination of witnesses will be continued.

NEW YORK, Feb. 6.—Col. Pelton was to-day before the Sub Committee investigating the cipher dispatches.

Question—Can you remember any of the names with whom you corresponded, or have you destroyed your cipher key?

Answer—I have, and I cannot now remember the names of any persons with whom I conferred. All telegrams sent by Weed were by my instructions addressed to Havemeyer, who at once sent them to me. After this they were presented to the Committee at the Everett House.

Q.—Who opened these dispatches in your absence?

A.—The National Democratic Committee.

The Chairman called attention to the dispatch dated Tallahassee, November 10th, and signed in the translation "Marble." The dispatch stated that the Canvassing Board may and will purge the County returns, and that our first move will be to require of the Board, of three State officers, one being an able Democrat, immediate action.

Col. Pelton—"I might as well state here that I cannot remember anything about these dispatches. There is no question the Tribune dispatches got near to the point, yet they are inaccurate. I always understood that Wooley and Fox were one and the same person. Give me a little more latitude and I will testify fully."

Witness did not remember whether or not he used the word "Denmark" as his signature. Mr. Springer of the Committee saw several dispatches from Florida signed "MAX."

Witness said he had an idea that the Returning Board propositions, even if not carried out, would result (if assented to) in a delay, which would be favorable to the Democratic party. He had made no arrangements for raising money, but intended, eventually, to lay the matter before the Democratic National Committee, and let it decide. In the meanwhile he thought it best to commit the members of the Returning Board to the propositions in the question. He acted wholly on his own responsibility, without consultation with anyone. He held no authority to act for the Democratic National Committee in the matter.

Pelton examined the original of the dispatch, which was translated as follows:

"TALLAHASSEE, Dec. 2.

To Col. Pelton, 15 Gramercy Park:

Have just received a proposition to hand over, at any hour, the required Tilden decision of the Board, and a certificate of the Governor, for $200,000.

MARBLE."

The witness said that the dispatch from Marble of that tenor original had no signature. Whether the translation was accurate in every respect he could not say, but he had a dispatch containing the proposition in question.

He sent a dispatch in reply, declining the offer, and saying that the amount was too high. He did not communicate the dispatch from Marble, or its contents, to any person before sending his answer.

The following translation of the dispatch to Havemeyer, dated at Tallahassee, December 4th, and signed Fox, was shown witness:

"Board fetch may make a necessary expense of half of a hundred thousand dollars. Can you say you will deposit in bank immediately if agreed?"

Pelton said that he received a dispatch containing such a proposition, which he understood to be a reduction of the original offer of $200,000. He did not recognize the handwriting, but understood "Fox" to be a name used by Woolley.

The following dispatch was then shown:

"NEW YORK, Dec. 1st.

"*C. W. Woolley, Tallahassee:*

[Translation.] "Telegram received, will deposit dollars agreed. (You) can not, however, draw before the vote; number received. Reply promptly."

Witness said that he sent a dispatch of that character; he did not consult any one in regard to it, but acted on his own responsibility; there was some telegraphic correspondence between him and Woolley as to the degree of confidence which he placed in the latter; he assured Woolley that he confided in him.

A dispatch dated at Tallahassee, Dec. 3, and addressed to Col. Pelton was then exhibited, with the following translation:

"Proposition received; either giving the vote of one Republican of the Board, or his concurrence in the count, in action in preventing the Elector's vote from being for his half hundred best United States documents for $50,000 in United States notes.

MARBLE."

Witness said that he received a dispatch of that character but did not remember the exact words. He had a similar dispatch from Woolley; he sent a dispatch to Woolley urging harmony of action, and protesting against divided councils. He remembered that a dispatch was sent of the following character:

"NEW YORK, Dec. 4.

"*Manton Marble, Tallahassee.*

"The telegram here; proposition accepted if done only once. Better consult with Woolley and act in concert, You can trust him. Time very important, and there should be no divided councils."

This was sent upon my own responsibility.

The South Carolina dispatches were then taken up.

Pelton said he remembered sending a dispatch assenting to the proposition to use $50,000. He might have asked that a part of the money should be payable only after the vote was cast, but he did not remember doing so. He remembered receiving a dispatch from Weed to the effect that the South Carolina Returning Board demanded $75,000. The proposition was accepted by him. He thought he did not remember the exact words of the dispatch which he sent.

The attention of the witness was then called to other dispatches, and he was asked if he had any explanation.

He replied—"I have not; I can hardly remember these things; I went to Baltimore; the night before leaving New York I met Mr. Cooper and told him about the Weed correspondence and that I might need his money. Before I met Weed I was fully satisfied that money could be forthcoming, but later I received two telegrams, one from Cooper and the other from some one whose name I do not recollect, to the effect that the money could not be raised. Met Cooper at his house and told him that Weed had telegraphed me as to the amount necessary to buy South Carolina; Cooper led me to believe that the money could not be raised; Tilden was exceedingly annoyed about the matter, and denounced my action, in fact, he was very severe; I left for Baltimore without his knowledge or consent, and he was much surprised at my action.

Chairman—Did Tilden have any idea that you were perfecting or attempting to perfect, negotiations for buying the Returning Board.

A.—He had not the least idea of what was going on.

Q.—Did you tell, of advise him, of the correspondence of Manton Marble or Woolley, from Florida?

A.—I certainly did not.

Q.—Did you tell him anything about the Weed correspondence?

A.—I did not. The correspondence and arrangements were carried out solely by me.

Q.—(By Stenger)—Don mean to say that you had no conversation with Mr. Tilden on this matter until after your arrival from Baltimore?

A.—Yes sir, that is the fact.

Q.—Mr. Tilden was much annoyed, was he not?

A.—He was, and I don't know that he yet forgets it. He told me distinctly that he wanted no such work, and would sooner die than allow himself to be put into the Presidential chair under false pretenses. When I subsequently showed the Governor the whole correspondence he was still more exercised, and denounced the whole proceedings emphatically.

Q.—(By Reed)—As Secretary of the National Democratic Committee, did you not arrange the ciphers?

A.—I did not.

Q.—Did you fully explain matters before the Committee that investigated the Oregon election?

A.—Yes, sir, I did, and have nothing to add to it.

In a further cross examination, Pelton was unable to tell who was the author of the cipher key, but said the same key answered, so far as his recollection went, for South Carolina and Florida. The Tribune translations, he added, were inaccurate. He gave copies of the keys to Cooper and Marble. The same key answered for Louisiana, but witness could not say to whom he gave the key there. Mr. Tilden did not read all the telegrams received; he did not inquire as to whether or not there was any news from Marble, but he never read a single telegram in relation to the negotiations or the purchase of the Returning Board.

Q.—Now tell us the exact words of your uncle.

A.—I cannot say all; I know this, that he strongly disapproved of what I had been doing.

Q.—Then your uncle and Mr. Cooper disapproved of your plans from a moral point of view? Mr. Cooper was Treasurer of the National Democratic Committee, was he not?

A.—He was. But as to his morality, I cannot say.

Q.—Did the word "Russia" mean Mr. Tilden.

A.—I guess so.

Q.—Did you present the telegram reading, 'Tell Russia to saddle Blackstone," to your uncle?

A.—I never did.

Q.—Did he understand what 'Bolivia Laura" meant?

A.—He did not. In fact he never saw any of these telegrams. "Blackstone" was the name of a horse owned by Mr. Tilden. That's all I know about it.

Q.—This was a suggestion then that Mr. Tilden should take some gentle exercise?

A.—I suppose so.

Q.—These people in Louisiana, Florida and South Carolina depended upon your doing what you have shown you could do. In other words, you led them them to believe that you had somebody behind you, and that what whatever you did would be sanctioned, and any contracts made by you would be faithfully carried out?

A.—That is about it.

Q.—Did you intend, if Mr. Cooper favored your plans, to obtain $80,000 or $50,000 from the National Democratic Committee?

A.—I did.

Q.—Do you make any difference between buying the Elector or buying the Returning Board?

A.—I do. There is a great difference. Witness said he had not seen Marble since last August.

To Hiscock—I do not now reside with Gov. Tilden. Have not lived in Gramercy Park since last August. When Secretary to Gov. Tilden, witness was looked upon as his accredited agent.

Q.—Look at the cipher; does it not contain arbitrary words, some meaning thousands and others hundreds?

A.—I decline.

Q.—Explain this.

A.—I have no explanation to give.

Q.—It is not a fact then that you betrayed your confidential friend, Weed, when you said you could raise $60,000 or $50,000?

A.—I do not know that there was any betrayal in the matter.

Q.—Why did you tell Cooper not to mention the matter to your uncle?

A.—Because the Governor had no knowledge of this transaction whatever, and if he had he would have stopped it.

Q.—Are you not entirely dependent on your uncle?

Springer objected on the ground that the question was offensive. Some argument ensued, in the course of which Reed suggested that just as the Committee were eliciting some information from the witness, the Democrats objected.

The Chairman remarked—Let me be explicit; the Democrats had nothing to do with this beyond getting at the truth.

Mr. Hiscock remarked that he was not satisfied with the answers of witness and intended to make him give proper ones.

Q.—By Hiscock—About this election?

A.—Yes, it was stolen and wrongfully disposed of. [Applause].

The Chairman remarked that if this applause was repeated he should order the room to be cleared.

Q.—Did you consider the proposition to purchase the Returning Board honest?

A.—I do not think this is a fair question.

Q.—Did you not understand that the monies expended in Oregon were to carry the election?

A.—I cannot remember; you have already insulted me by your questions, and I wish you would refrain from it.

Hiscock—I have not insulted you either in word or meaning; I am seeking for truth and mean to have it; do you want the country to believe that without consulting any leading Democrat or your uncle, you took upon yourself to make these contracts involving this large amount of money, whereas you have not a dollar?

A.—You are getting offensive again.

Q.—Well, we will see; don't be particular to a shade; you got $8,000 from Jordon, who has already testified before the Senate Committee. Did you expect to get this money from your uncle?

A.—I did not.

Q.—Then from whom did you expect to get it?

A.—From Mr. Scott.

Q.—Seeing that the meaning is that Tilden was not to give you the money, did you not know that you were guilty of an unjust act, or to say the least, a dishonest act?

A.—I think nothing of the kind.

At the evening session, Pelton was cross examined by Reed.

Q.—I understand you to say that your proposed way of raising this large amount of money to send to Baltimore was by laying the matter before the National Democratic Committee.

A.—Yes, sir, I so intended.

Q.—Notwithstanding your uncle's disapprobation would you have done so?

A.—Yes; I intended to raise the money; I had not made up my mind when I agreed to furnish the money to them. I should have to go for it; I would have gone to the most active in the party for it.

Q.—Name any you would have gone to?

A.—Well, I might have laid the matter before Cooper.

Q.—What, after his action and refusal in the Carolina business?

A.—Yes, I think so; and perhaps I would have convened the National Committee, or laid it before them somehow.

Hiscock said he intended to examine the witness more fully, and would insist on every question coming under the rule, being answered.

Stenger—I have been passive so far; now let me say, you shall get all the answers you want.

Reed—That is exactly the object of the committee, the truth, and nothing but the truth.

Question—You telegraphed your acceptance to Marble on the 4th of December?

Question—Now you know the Returning Board was to declare its results on the 5th, and how could you convene the National Committee, or expect to raise that sum of money in so short a time, as it would take several days to convene the Committee?

A.—I did not suppose it would take so long; I might have laid it before them, and it quicker.

Q.—Now, under this statement, do you still say to us that whom you expected to get that money from was the National Democratic Committee, and that you didn't expect to get it nearer home?

A.—I do, sir; that was the sole source of my dependence for money; I did not expect to get money from any one else; Cooper and Scott, of the Committee, were here, and I could lay the matter before them.

Q.—Now, what reason had you to suppose that Scott would engage in a transaction repudiated and denounced by Mr. Tilden, your uncle?

A.—No, sir, I would only lay it before him.

Q.—Didn't you know, or consider, Mr. Scott to be as reputable and honest a man, for instance, as your uncle, and that he might scorn such a transaction?

A.—I didn't consider anything about it.

Q.—What in Mr. Cooper's life led you to believe that he would engage in such an evil undertaking?

A.—Nothing, whatever.

Q.—Do you want it understood that you telegraphed Marble an unconditional acceptance on your own responsibility, without having the money ready to carry it out?

A.—I do; but I expected to get the money and be ready.

Question by Stenger—I understand you to say that you had no assurances either from Tilden or the Democratic National Committee, that they would supply you with the money?

A.—Yes, sir, I so stated; I knew I could not get the money from Mr. Tilden.

Q.—You remember when the leading statesmen on the Republican side went South to see that matters were conducted fairly, it was thought necessary to send representative men on the Democratic side, to see also that the count was conducted fairly?

A.—Yes, sir; it was about the time that the Republican statesmen were sent down that we concluded to send our leading men down also.

Q. (By Reed)—Then do I understand your position to be that you were a victim of deception?

A.—No, not that, exactly.

Q.—You sent down the leading and very best men of your party?

A.—Yes, we sent down as prominent and reputable men as any in the party.

Q.—Was it not a source of sorrow to see them all succumbing to temptation? [Laughter.]

A.—I scarcely understand you.

Q.—Of course, I mean to the temptations of the Returning Boards, not to any original sin on their part. [Laughter.]

Pelton, and all present, smiled at this question, which was unanswered.

Q.—Did you remonstrate with them by cipher or telegraph?

A.—No, sir.

Q.—Why not; was the expense too heavy?

A.—I suppose so. [Laughter.]

Q.—[By Stenger]—Was there anything in Tilden's life which led you to believe that he would have loaned you the money for the purposes mentioned?

A.—No, sir; on the contrary I felt convinced that Mr. Tilden would not advance the money, and would not have anything to do with the matter.

The Committee adjourned until to-morrow, having no more questions to ask, but Pelton is not to consider himself discharged.

NEW YORK, Jan. 7.—Investigation into the cipher dispatches was begun to-day, with Manton Marble on the stand. He said, in answer to questions: "I went to Florida to look after the electoral vote. I cannot say that I went under instructions of the Democratic Committee. Did not go at the specific request of any one. Had no conversation with Gov. Tilden on the matter. I called on the Governor the evening I left, and simply bade him good bye. On my way I met Randolph, Blair and Fox, and of course conversed upon the matter with them. I think I got the cipher from Pelton at the Everett House, and used it subsequently. I neither sent to nor received from Tilden any telegrams. I addressed my dispatches to Pelton. My object in going to Florida was to take care of the electoral vote, and let me here suggest that the cipher dispatches, as published in the Tribune, so far as I am concerned, are simply rubbish.

Q.—Give the Committee a general idea of what you did in Florida.

A.—I have already published statements of what I did and did not do. One of my statements was published in January, a year ago; the other (rubadub) was published in the Tribune for months. What I did not do was to buy Florida votes—and they were for sale. I would like these letters if the Committee has no objection.

Mr. Reed—I have a decided objection.

Chairman—Then they are ruled out?

Mr. Stenager—I can't see the force of the objection of the member on the other side. Beyond a doubt, on cross-examination they will require the witness to state all that he knows about these letters, and probably make him read them verbatim.

Chairman—Mr. Marble, have you copies of the telegrams you sent from Florida?

A.—I have not. They were published at the time, and I would prefer, if you will, to take them as published.

(On the dispatch from Tallahasse, November 16, beginning, Use 140 cipher, witness said he had no explanation to give, remarking, I must confess that there are a number of dispatches correct. Witness said he would like to explain telegram No. 23. It was a dispatch to Pelton asking him to have documents circulated throughout the country by aid of the press.)

Mr. Hiscock objected, saying: The telegrams are here, and I insist that they shall stand on their own merits.

Mr. Steager—The intention of this Committee is to get at everything and my ideals that every telegram, every paper and every explanation should be admitted.

Hiscock—Yes, you are getting on the "ragged edge" and I fear you will fall over.

Chairman—I think it is only fair that all propositions made by the witness should be freely explained.

Hiscock—Then I shall call for a vote on this matter.

Mr. Springer—"You seem to want sunlight, and yet you will insist on getting in what you please."

The vote upon

News of the Week.

THE CAPITAL.

At Washington great efforts are being made by representative tobacco men from Virginia, Kentucky, Pennsylvania Ohio and Illinois, to have the tax reduced to 16 cents. The House are agreed to this, and the trade claim that 25 Senators are in favor of this rate. The opposition of the other members of the Senate is upon the ground of the decrease of revenues which would amount to $6,000,000 a year. The tobacco men say that the trade will be ruined unless the reduction is made.

A dispatch says the internal revenue bill is further amended by the addition of a section to remit all taxes upon insolvent saving banks and to exempt from taxation $2,000 of each deposit made by one person or association in any savings institution.

Gen. Rice, Chairman of the Committee on Pensions, has had several interviews with Commissioner Bentley as to the necessary legislation to carry all the provision of the arrears of pensions act of the Committee. Time will be required to examine the claims presented, and with the facilities at his disposal, the Commissioner thinks, no more than $10 000,000 will be required for the claims adjusted during the coming year. The Committee has informally considered, and will probably report the bill appropriating that amount for the purpose. Should the claims be more rapidly adjusted, provisions for their payment can be made on the meeting of Congress in December next.

A Washington Feb. 10, the joint Democratic caucus of Senators and Representatives was held in the hall of the House of Representatives Tuesday The first subject considered was the proposition to repeal the clause in the revised statute regarding the test oath for jurors, and Sen. Thurman offered an amendment to the original proposition providing the mode of drawing jurors in States where there is no provision for that purpose. Mr. Southard referred to another amendment to repeal the section of the federal supervising election law. Mr. Thurman urged his resolution in strong terms. Mr. Blackburn maintained that but one of the repealing measures should be attached to one appropriation bill. Sen. Bayard was in opposition to placing such repealing clams to the appropriation bills. He was answered by Sen. Thurman. Finally both propositions with amendments were adopted and will accordingly be appended to the legislative, executive, and judicial appropriation bill in the House. The caucus was very well attended.

EAST.

At New York, there is much discussion on the produce exchange and in financial circles, as to the effect likely to be produced on the business interests of this country by the ravages of the plague in southern Russia. The establishment of a military cordon around the infected District, and the measures being taken by the other European powers for the prevention of the spread of the disease, are spoken of as laying an embargo on the export of Russian grain and other products. The dread of the plague in the infected districts also is thought likely to prevent the sowing of seed for a future crop. These elements of the situation were thoroughly canvassed, and, as far as is observed, the opinion on 'change seems to be general that from these troubles will spring an extraordinary European demand for the cereals of the United States and a consequent rise of prices, and a brisk and profitable business in their transportation from the west to the seaboard, and to Europe.

WEST.

A dispatch says the Union Pacific Railroad Company's statement for the year ending June 30th, 1878, shows the total revenue was $12,756,353; expenses, $5,807,753; interest, $3,02 286 The bonded debt has been reduced $691,000; net surplus in the treasury over all outlays, $2,705,142, more than enough to pay seven per cent. on the capital for the entire year. With the contracts and cash on hand there remains $2 699,756 of the 7,000 00 land grant to be disposed of.

A Cheyenne dispatch says Mr. Sanders who left Rouse's Ranch on February 1, for Independence on the North Platte Feb 7th, having been driven 50 miles by Indians. He confirms the news of the killing of Moorehead and Ashbaugh, January 26, by 13 Indians, and also reports the names of two others killed at Howard's Upper Camp about the same date, one a herder named Sam Briggs, and the other a man lately from Albany, called Buster.

At Detroit Feb. 10, a telegram received here from Lansing states that the resignation of the Hon. E. P. Christiancy as Senator from Michigan has been placed in the hands of Gov. Croswell, to take effect at noon to-day. The Governor will this evening transmit an official notification of Sen. Christiancy's resignation to the Legislature, declaring the office vacant.

SOUTH.

At Memphis Tenn' Feb 10, the argument on general creditor's bills, representing the City bonds to the amount of $2,500 00 was heard this morning by Judge Baxter, of the United States District Court. The Judge announced his determination to appoint a receiver to-morrow.

FOREIGN.

Great Britain.

At London the Committee of the Cattle Trade Association of Liverpool offer to erect the necessary barage and shearing to comply with the requirements of the Privy Council. It is believed, however, that in consequence of the importance of the trade to Liverpool, either the Corporation or the Dock Board will undertake the work. The Government is not inclined to interfere with the importation of cattle from America, provided that there is an adequate inspection before shipment and barage at Liverpool. The trade say that American shippers need not fear any interference with the business.

At Liverpool Feb 10, the steamer "Istrian," from Boston, arrived and her cattle were all admitted without trouble. The British Government has issued no such order as that published in New York, Saturday, declaring that the landing of live cattle from the United States after the 28th of February was forbidden. On the contrary, the government has intended that unless future arrivals prove the existence of disease, they have no intention of interfering with the cattle trade. The Mersey Dock Board has already commenced the erection of barage.

A Liverpool dispatch says no order of the Privy Council revoking after March 3 article 13 in relation to the foreign animal order, so far as it relates to the United States, was a great surprise. All cattle from the United States after March 3 will have to be slaughtered in at butcrs now preparing on the dock at Birkenhead and Liverpool, within 10 days after landing.

Germany.

A dispatch says Dr. Finkelueber, the German delegate to the International Sanitary Commission, will discuss with the Government here the measures to be adopted on the Southern frontier in case the plague reaches Roumania. The Hungarian Government with the assent of the Roumanian government will despatch a commission to report upon the state of the public health in Roumania Bessarabia, Bulgaria and Roumelia. The two Governments have agreed to adopt protective measures on a large scale on Bessarabian and Transylvanian frontier and to shift the Russian line of magazines in Roumania eastward behind a double cordon.

Turkey.

The definitive treaty between Russia and Turkey provides that all the San Stephano stipulations, which were modified by the treaty of Berlin, shall remain as modified. The remaining stipulations are abandoned in favor of the present treaty, by which the war indemnity is fixed at 300,000,000 paper roubles, and settlement is deferred. The payment for the maintenance of the Turkish prisoners will be by 21 installments, but is not to begin immediately. The examination of accounts is expected to last two or three years. The Russian evacuation of Turkish territory will be completed 40 days after ratification of the treaty. The Secretary of Prince Lobanoff, Russian Ambassador at Constantinople, has already started for St. Petersburg with the treaty for the ratification, and the various Russian Commissioners have been notified of its terms.

Russia.

At St. Petersburg Feb. 10, advices from the interior state that general unhealthiness and predisposition to epidemic exists. The government of Saratoff complain of the foul condition of Kamashin. Typhus fever and small pox are increasing in an alarming manner In the government of Tyrier, The Liberian plague has appeared in another village. The cattle plague has spread to 25 neighboring localities; of 2 000 head attacked, half perished. The plague has appeared at a Village on the Keiff railway and there is great mortality at Arsk from smallpox and another unknown disease. An unknown epidemic has appeared in two Villages of Tambroo and the plague at Rostow. A large number of Cossacks who fled from Wetlianka were found frozen to death on the banks of the Volga.

France.

At Paris Feb. 10 Father Hyacinthe Loyson's Old Catholic Church was opened yesterday in the building formerly Folies Montboion. Father Loyson said he expected the Bishop of Moravard two other Protestant Bishops would assist at the dedication, but circumstances prevented their attendance.

Canada.

At Ottawa Feb. 4, the Free Press says: "The stories in American papers about Sitting Bull having crossed over from the Canadian side of the boundary are purely apocryphal. From private information in our possession. Sitting Bull is camped at Frenchman's Creek, at the head of White Mountain, 25 miles north of the boundary line.

WESTERN UNION.

Its President Explains Its Course in Regard to the Cipher Telegrams.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9—The Potter Committee received the following letter:

NEW YORK, Feb. 8 1878.

To Hon. Clarkson N. Potter, Chairman:

SIR:—The testimony recently elicited by your Committee concerning this company's action in respect to the political telegrams taken from us in 1876 and 1876 by the Senate and House Committees, the subpenas appear to have been so uniformly misunderstood by the press as to make it now seem proper to amplify the same, by the way of guarding against a like misapprehension on the part of the Committee itself and of the members of the House. Accordingly, I respectfully submit the following brief statement of facts, all of which already appear upon the records of Congress, asking that it be laid before your Committee and spread upon its records, to the end, not only that a correct history of these transactions may appear, but that at the same time a simple act of justice may be done thereby to the company which I have the honor to represent, in the resulting vindication of its late and present administration from any charge of political bias in the conduct of its business. The plain truth is, "that the company realizing a great moral obligation to preserve sacred from a threatened exposure all telegrams committed to its confidence and keeping, both before and after the service of the subpenas, reported to every legitimate and proper device consistent with a due respect for the authority of Congress, to prevent such exposure by a timely transfer of the messages from the custody of the managers and officers likely to be called upon to produce them, to the executive officers in New York, and thence by a resolution of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors, from the custody of the executive officers to that of the Executive Committee itself. When, therefore, Manager Barnes, of the New Orleans office, was subpœnaed by the Morrison Committee, almost all of the telegrams he was called upon to produce had been taken from his custody, and he had no power to produce them. So also when the President was brought to the bar of the House for contempt, he was enabled to plead that he had not the custody of the messages called for in his subpœna. The proceedings of the House of Representatives, as published in the Congressional Record, show that the statements of his answer as to the attitude taken by the Executive Committee disclosed to the House full information as to where the messages could be reached, but, notwithstanding this fact, no members of the House or any of its Committees saw fit, at the time, to act on the information thus given. The Senate Committee, however, took the initiative, and sending immediately to New York the next day, served every member of the company in the line with a sworn subpœna, which demanded the production of all messages to or from the principal offices of the company where any important political telegrams were supposed to have been sent or received. Under the subpœna the Executive Committee, composed about equally of members of the two political parties, proceeded with the messages to Washington, where, soon after their arrival, they were served with a like sweeping subpœna from the House Committee. A meeting of the Executive Committee was thereupon held, and, by resolutions then passed, it was decided to respect the service on the Company's President and Committee alike, and to surrender to the House Committee all the messages covered by its subpœna to President Orton—this being prior, in time of service, to the subpœna from the Committee of the Senate—and to surrender to the Senate Committee all the messages covered by its subpœna—this last being prior, in time of its service, to the like subpœna from the Committee of the House. It was further resolved, in order to comply as far as possible with the conflicting subpœnas, that whichever Committee failed to receive the original messages, should have copies of all such originals as were delivered to the other Committee, or if it should be concluded that the immense labor of copying might be saved, then that the Committee of either House receiving the original messages should agree that the members of the Committee of the other House, which had called for them, should have free access to examine such originals, and to make copies thereof, if desired. A copy of the resolutions, of which the foregoing is the substance, was served upon each Committee on January 19 and on the 24th of January Senator Sargent wrote to the Committee, stating that the Committee of the Senate had conferred with the Committee of the House, and that the alternative or latter measure of those above mentioned as an agreement was accepted as entirely satisfactory to both committees. The surrender of the messages was then made, but not until the committee had urgently endeavored to impress upon the respective committees the necessity of guarding the telegrams from theft, or from disclosure to others than those who, from their position upon the committee, were entitled to their inspection. It will be seen that our case in these matters was strictly fair and impartial. We were powerless to take further precautions in the premises, and we are in no manner responsible for the subsequent loss of the telegrams entrusted to the Senate Committee.

I have the honor to remain, very respectfully, yours,

NORVIN GREEN, President.

A Prayer That Was Answered.

A story comes from St. Petersburg which is pretty enough to bear repeating. Not long since a Government functionary died in utter destitution, leaving, without friends or relations, two small children, one of whom was a boy about seven years old. Alone, moneyless, foodless, with his little sister crying for bread, he wrote on a piece of paper, as a last resort, the petition, "Please, God, send me three copecks to buy my little sister a roll." Then he carried to the nearest Church to drop it into an alms-box and start it on its way to heaven. A passing priest, seeing him trying to put the paper in the box, took it and read it whereupon he carried the children to his house, fed them and clothed them. The next Sunday he preached a sermon on charity, in which he alluded to the incident. The collection that followed amounted to nearly $1,000.—*Louisville Courier-Journal.*

Nephew Pelton.

Chicago Evening Journal.

Nephew Pelton is to be sacrificed to save Uncle Sam. Pelton has nothing to lose by assuming all the responsibility of the cipher dispatches. But that will not let Tilden out of the scrape. It is just as easy to make water run up hill as to convince the country that the attempt to buy electoral votes was not made with the knowledge and sanction of Samuel J. Tilden.

CONGRESSIONAL.

Forty-Fifth Congress—Second Session.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5.

A bill was placed on the calendar providing for a new naval observatory, and the removal of the present one.

A portion of Saturday next was set apart for bills reported by the Committee on Military Affairs, and the Japanese indemnity fund bill will be called up Monday.

Sen. MATTHEW'S resolution, providing for a committee to inquire into the claims of citizens against Nicaragua, was agreed to without discussion.

Sens. OGLESBY and DAVIS (Ill.) presented a joint resolution from the Illinois Legislature, urging Congress to make a sufficient appropriation this session to complete the new Court House and Postoffice buildings at the City of Chicago Referred.

Sen. WHYTE took the floor, but yielded to Sen. Garland for a motion for an executive session.

Sen. EDMUNDS opposed the latter and hoped that his resolution would be disposed of to-day.

The motion of Sen. GARLAND was agreed to and the Senate went into executive session. When the doors reopened, they adjourned.

HOUSE.

The House, in Committee of the Whole, rejected the amendments reducing the army to 17,000 and 20,000 men. The vote was 118 nayes, 66 ayes.

The House went into the Committee of the Whole on the army appropriation bill.

Mr DURHAM submitted an amendment reducing the army to 20,000 enlisted men.

Mr. WHITTHORN moved to reduce the number to 15,000, and argued in favor of a better organization of the militia.

After considerable debate a vote was taken on Mr. Whitthorn's amendment, and it was defeated.

Mr. COX (N. Y.) moved to amend by fixing the force at 17,000.

Mr. COX advocated the reduction of the army.

Mr. Cox's amendment was defeated without a division, and Mr. Durham's by a vote of 67 to 118.

Mr. BUTLER submitted an amendment authorizing and requiring railroad companies, who have telegraph lines, to transmit telegrams for the Government and the general public at rates to be fixed by the Government according to the provisions of the revised statute. Adopted. Without further action the Committee arose.

The House then took a recess until 7:30. The evening session is to be for the consideration of the Mississippi levee bill.

The House went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Carlisle in charge, on the Mississippi levee bill.

Mr. REAGAN advocated an amendment, which he offered, directing the Commission to consider and report on the practicability of improving the navigation, deepening the channel and reclaiming the alluvial lands of the Mississippi by means of outlets into the Gulf of Mexico.

After a debate, Mr. SPARKS offered an amendment, striking out of the bill all that alludes to the protection and to the alluvial lands.

The Committee rose, and reported the bill and the pending amendments to the House. The main question was ordered, and the House at 10:45 adjourned.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6—A bill was placed on the calendar providing for a new naval observatory, and the removal of the present one.

A portion of Saturday next was set apart for bills reported by the committee on military affairs and the Japanese indemnity fund bill will be called up Monday.

Senator MATTHEWS' resolution providing for a committee to inquire into the claims of citizens against Nicaragua, was agreed to without discussion.

The President laid before the Senate the credential of John P. Jones, elected United States Senator from Nevada. Placed on file.

Sen. HOAR, by request, submitted a resolution instructing the Committee on military affairs to consider and report whether it is expedient to authorize the Secretary of War to procure a supply of canister and shot of the improved pattern. Agreed to.

Sen. KERNAN presented a resolution from the New York Legislature asking an appropriation for the removal of obstructions in the St. Mary's river, St. Clair river and the Detroit river. Referred.

Sen. HAMLIN presented a letter from the Secretary of State, saying that the family of the late Bayard Taylor, United States Minister to the German Empire, was not in affluent circumstances, and recommending that the salary of the Minister to Berlin be continued to Mrs. Taylor for one year. Referred.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the resolutions of Sen. Edmunds, declaring the validity of the 13th, 14th and 15th amendments to the Constitution of the United States, and Sen. White spoke in opposition thereto.

Sen. GARLAND moved to amend the substitute of Sen. Morgan so that it should read, "That although the Thirteenth, Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments to the Constitution of the United States, were not adopted in a legal manner, yet having been accepted, recognized and acquiesced in by the States, they are as valid and binding," etc. Rejected.

Sen. CAMERON (Pa.) moved that the Senate proceed with the consideration of executive business. Rejected. Sen. Cameron (Pa.) voting with the Democrats in the affirmative, and the Republicans voting in the negative.

After some further discussion, the CHAIR (Sen. Cockrell) ruled that the motion of Sen. Hereford embraced that of Sen. Hill, which was to postpone the matter until March 5, after the expiration of the present Congress.

The motion of Sen. Hereford was rejected. Yeas—15; nays—32.

Sen. EATON moved to adjourn. Rejected, yeas, 22; nays, 31, Sans. Bayard and Kernan voting with the Republicans against the adjournment.

The amendment of Sen. Garland was rejected, yeas, 5; nays, 34.

Sen. EDMUNDS submitted the following as an amendment to the substitute of Sen. Morgan: That the right of people peaceably to assemble for the purpose of petitioning Congress for redress of grievances, or for anything else connected with the powers and duties of the National Government, is an attribute of National citizenship, and as such is under the protection of, and guaranteed by the United States, and within the scope of the sovereignty of the United States to protect by penal laws.

Sen. MORGAN moved to adjourn. Rejected. Yeas, 6; nays, 25. No quorum voting, a call of the Senate was ordered, and 51 Senators reported.

The question then recurred on the amendment of Sen. Edmunds, and was agreed to. Yeas, 25; nays, 16.

The question then recurred on the substitute of Sen. Morgan as amended by Sen. Edmunds, and it was rejected. Yeas, 13; nays, 26.

The question then being on the resolution, as submitted by Senator Edmunds, and he demanded a separate vote on each resolution. The first one was agreed to by a vote—yeas, 23—nays, 17. The second resolution was agreed to by a similar vote, and as agreed to the resolution read:

"*Resolved*, As the judgment of the Senate that the thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth amendments to the Constitution of the United States have been legally ratified and are valid, and of the same paramount authority as any other part of the Constitution, that the people of each State have a common interest in the enforcement of the whole Constitution in every State of the Union, and that is a like the right and duty of Congress to enforce the said amendments, and protect every citizen in the exercise of all the rights thereby secured by the law, of a general character, already passed for that purpose, and by further appropriate legislation so far as such enforcement and protection are not secured by existing laws; and that it is the Executive department of the Government to faithfully and diligently carry all such laws into impartial execution, and of Congress to appropriate all the moneys needful to that end."

Resolved, Further, that it is the duty of Congress to provide by law, for a full and impartial protection of all citizens of the United States, duly qualified, in the right to vote for representatives in Congress, and to this end, the Committee on Judiciary, be, and it is hereby ordered, to prepare and report as soon as may be, a bill for the protection of such rights and the punishment of any infringement thereof.

HOUSE.

The Speaker announced the regular order to be the consideration of the Mississippi levee bill; the amendment adopted striking out the clause which gives the Commissioners a life tenure of office; also the amendment directing the commission to complete the survey of the Mississippi River from Alton, Ill., and the passes at the mouth of the river.

The amendment was adopted directing the commission to report on the feasibility of all plans submitted to it, and the bill then passed.

The report of the Committee on Elections in the Florida contested case was submitted in favor of Jessie T. Finley, and adverse to the claim of Horace Bisbee.

The minority submitted dissenting views, and both reports were recommitted.

The House went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Carlisle in the Chair, on the army appropriation bill. The number of aid de camps to which the general of the army shall be entitled was increased from three to four.

Mr. WHITE offered as an amendment to the bill, substantially the bill known as the Army Reorganization bill.

Mr. BANNING favored the amendments. He moved that the Committee rise, in order that the amendment might be printed.

This was opposed by Mr. GARFIELD and other Republicans, who wished to have the vote taken at once, but it was agreed to—ayes, 106; nays, 67. Adjourned.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7.

Sen. BLAINE presented a memorial from the manufacturing companies of Maine, representing $12,000,000 capital, and employing thousands of persons, asking an appropriation for mail service between one or more Atlantic ports and South American ports. The memorial says the money will be returned in increased commerce. The memorial was referred.

Sen. PADDOCK submitted a resolution instructing the Committee on Agriculture, to inquire in regard to the reports concerning infectious diseases among horned cattle. Agreed to.

Sen. WALLACE submitted a resolution requesting the Committee on Commerce to report the House bill known as the Inter-State Commerce bill at the earliest possible moment. Laid on the table. He gave notice that he would call it up at an early day.

Sen. McDONALD moved to postpone the pending and all prior orders for the purpose of taking up the House bill to relieve certain legal disabilities of women. Agreed to—yeas, 31; nays, 20.

The bill provides that any woman who shall have been a member of the highest Court of any State or Territory, or of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, for the space of three years, and shall have maintained a good standing before such Court, and who shall be a person of good moral character, shall, on motion, and the production of such record, be admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of the United States. After a discussion the bill was passed without an amendment. Yeas, 40; nays, 20.

The bill having passed as it came from the House, it now goes to the President for his signature.

After an executive session the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.

The Senate amendments to the Naval appropriation bills were non-concurred in.

Mr. SPARKS submitted a report of the Conference Committee on the Indian Appropriation Bill. He stated that the bill was substantially the one that passed the House. Agreed to.

The committee reported a number of private bills to the House, and they passed.

The House then took a recess until 7:30 P. M.

Mr. MULDROW, from the committee on coinage, weights and measures, reported a bill authorizing the treasurer of the United States to receive coins of the United States in exchange for United States notes.

Mr. BREWER offered as a substitute an amendment providing that, on the presentation of any coins of the United States at the Sub-Treasury at New York, there shall be exchanged therefor, on demand, the extent and amount to which such coins are legal tender, an equal amount of treasury notes, and all silver coins, so received, which are unfit for circulation, shall be recoined.

Mr. GARFIELD opposed the bill.

Mr. BURCHARD said the effect of the bill would be to prevent bankers from entering into a combination to discriminate against silver.

Mr. ROBBINS moved to lay the bill on the table. Defeated—yeas, 61; nays, 97.

Mr. GARFIELD raised the point of order that no quorum had voted, and the House adjourned.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8.

Sen. BAILEY moved to postpone the pending, and all prior orders, and proceed to the consideration of the bill for the relief of the book agents of the Methodist Episcopal Church South. Rejected—yeas, 27; nays, 30.

At the request of his colleague (Morrill) Sen. EDMUNDS consented that the unfinished business should be laid aside informally, and the bill to provide for taking the 10th and subsequent censuses was taken up.

Sen. CONKLING submitted an amendment providing that upon the compilation and publication of the census, the office of Superintendent shall cease, and the period of the service of the clerks shall end. Agreed to.

He also submitted an amendment providing that the subdivision assigned to any enumeration, shall contain not less than three thousand inhabitants, where the last preceding census shows the inhabitants thereof. Agreed to.

The bill was then passed—yeas, 46 nays, 4.

Sen. CONKLING, from the Committee on Commerce, reported adversely on the House bill constitute Portsmouth, Ohio, a port of entry, and it was indefinitely postponed.

HAMLIN, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, reported back the Senate bill to restrict immigration of Chinese to this country. The committee was discharged from further consideration. He then reported back the House bill for the same purpose and asked the committee to be discharged from its further consideration, but that the bill be placed on the calendar with the request. He gave notice that when the bill came up he would move its indefinite postponement.

SARGENT gave notice that he would call the bill up for consideration Wednesday next, and spoke of the importance of the subject to the Pacific Coast.

Hamlin, Conkling, Kirkwood, Eaton and Morgan were appointed a Select Committee, under the resolution of Mathews, to examine the claims of citizens against Nicaragua.

HARRIS, from the Select Committee, to inquire as to the best means of preventing epidemic disease, reported a bill to prevent the introduction of contagious diseases and to establish a bureau of Public Health. Placed on calendar.

Sen. WINDOM called up his resolutions in regard to the migration of colored people, and spoke in favor thereof.

After an executive session, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.

The House, in Committee of the Whole, has adopted, by 101 to 91, the amendment offered by Mr. WHITE, comprising most of the features of the Army reorganization bill.

Mr. HAYES introduced a bill appropriating $500,000 for the improvement of the Illinois River. Referred.

Mr. CHILDMGS presented a resolution calling on the Commissioner of Pensions for the statements in relation to the amount required to pay the arrears of pensions. Adopted.

Mr. EDEN, Chairman of the Committee on War Claims, reported back the bill making appropriations for the payment of the claims reported as allowed by the Commissioners of claims.

The bill then passed.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Carlisle in the chair, on the Army Appropriation bill.

The pending amendment was Mr. White's, offered yesterday, which comprised most of the features of the Army Organization bill.

A vote was then taken on Mr. Whyte's amendment, which was agreed to—ayes, 101; nays, 91.

Mr. WHITTHORNE rose to a point of order on the section of the appropriation bill which provides that every officer who has been 30 years in the service may, on his application, be placed upon the retired list. The point of order was sustained, and the section stricken out.

On motion of Mr. HEWITT (N. Y.) the section which provides for the resignation of officers prior to the 1st of January, 1880, with three years' full pay, was stricken out.

Mr. HEWITT moved to amend section 2 062 of the Revised Statutes, so as to expunge therefrom the provision that the army shall be allowed to be at the polls on election day, to keep peace. Adopted—yeas, 93; nays, 90.

Mr. BOONE submitted the amendment for the transfer of the Indian Bureau to the War Department.

Mr. PAGE offered as a substitute to the amendment, authorizing the President to transfer the care and control of any of the Indian tribes to the War Department, temporarily, whenever he shall deem it advisable to do so, either on account of hostile action on their part against the United States, or in case of any difficulties arising between them and the settlers.

Mr. SCALES raised the point of order pending, after which the committee rose and the House adjourned.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.

The credentials of Sen. CARPENTER were placed on file.

Bills were introduced:

By Sen MORRILL—Authorizing the conversion of National Gold Banks. Referred.

Also, a bill amending the Revised Statutes relative to the deposit of bonds by associations. Referred.

A House bill authorizing the issue of certificates of deposited the denomination of $10, in aid of the refunding of the public debt, passed with an amendment increasing the interest to 4 per cent.

After passing several bills on the calendar a bill to provide additional accommodations for the library of Congress was laid aside informally, and Sen. M'CREERY spoke in favor of the transfer of the Indian Bureau to the War Department,

A House bill authorizing the issue of certificates of deposit of the denomination of $10, in aid of the refunding of the public debt, passed with an amendment increasing the interest to four per cent.

After passing several bills on the calendar a bill to provide additional accommodations of the library of Congress was laid aside informally, and Sen. McCREERY spoke in favor of the transfer of the Indian Bureau to the War Department.

At the conclusion of Sen. McCreery's speech Sen. PADDOCK called up the resolution submitted on the 4th of December last by Sen. Davis (West Virginia), instructing the Committee of Agriculture to consider what can or ought to be done by the General Government to better advance, encourage and foster the agricultural interests.

Sen. PADDOCK made a brief speech, and the resolution of Sen. Davis was agreed to.

Sen. GARLAND gave notice that on Saturday next he would move to take up the Texas Pacific railroad bill.

After an executive session the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.

Motions to suspend the rules and pass the bill repealing the law in regard to the test oath of jurors, and also the law for the appointment and the payment of the Supervisors of Election and their aids, were rejected—yeas, 126; nays, 113, it not having the necessary two-thirds in the affirmative.

The motion to suspend the rules and pass a bill to establish postal savings banks was defeated—yeas, 89, nays, 154.

By a vote of 160 yeas against 57 nays the sugar bill is made the special order for Thursday.

Mr. ACKLIN introduced a bill to restore the franking privilege as to letters sent or received by Members of Congress; also a bill to abolish the mileage of the Members of Congress, and to substitute the payment of actual traveling expenses. Referred.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Blackburn in the Chair, on the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill. The bill appropriates $15,154 475, as against the estimates of $16 496 601, and as against the appropriation of the last session of $15,351,238.

Mr. ATKINS, chairman of the Committee on Appropriations, made a statement in regard to the bill and the state of the finances.

The discussion was interrupted by an adjournment.

RENO.

The Trial Closed—Reno's Opinion of Custer.

CHICAGO, Feb. 8.—Major Reno was again on the stand to-day, and answering a question, replied emphatically that it was not cowardice that made him move from the corner on the hill. He had a flask of whisky with him, but did not drink a drop till the battle was over. He used it on the 27th, when on the Custer battle field, where the stench was so severe that the officers drank it. He was pressed as to his opinion of Custer, and finally confessed that he had no confidence in him as a soldier, but said his relations with Custer were friendly. Had his own brother been with Custer, he could not have done differently. He would do the same again with the knowledge he then had. The long trial was closed by the defense submitting some documents.

THE FREEDOM OF CUBA.

Gen. Yniguez Urging Patriots to Unite in Another Revolutionary Effort.

The New York Sun.

Gen. Calixo Garcia Yniguez, of the Cuban revolutionary army, who was captured three years ago, and who was lately released from imprisonment in Spain, is now in this City. He has addressed a manifesto to liberty-loving Cubans as President of the New York Cuban Revolutionary Committee. It recites that just as the Cuban patriots were about to pluck the fruits of liberty, the treason of a few and the false promises of the enemy prevented; and it urges patriots to harmonious action, that the island yet may be freed from Spain's rule. The formation of clubs in Cuban and American towns is recommended, that shall co-operate with the Revolutionary Committee; that all collect money and arms, and work with the one end in view of securing Cuban independence. The workings of the clubs must be kept secret, except that they shall be communicated to the Revolutionary Committee, which is to be the central organization.

Excuses for Smoking.

Philadelphia Press.

In a Northern town, the lads of a school acquired the habit of smoking, and resorted to the most ingenious methods to conceal the habit from the master. In this they were successful, until one evening when the master caught them puffing most vigorously.

"How now?" shouted he to one of the culprits: "How dare you smoke?"

"Sir, I am subject to headache, and a pipe takes off the pain."

"And you, and you, and you," inquired the pedagogue, questioning every boy in his turn. One had a raging toothache, another colic; the third a cough; in short, they all had something for which the weed was a sure remedy.

'Now, sirrah!' followed the master to the last boy, "pray what disorder do you smoke for?"

Alas, all the excuses were exhausted; but the interrogated urchin, putting down his pipe and looking up in his face, said, in a whining, hypocritical tone, "Sir, I smoke for corns."

The only thing that troubles Edison now is the corrosion of his platinum points. Perhaps a porous plaster, or a little camomile tea, or something of that kind, might relieve him.—*New York Commercial Advertiser.*

SPECIAL NOTICE.

A CARD.

To all who are suffering from the errors and indiscretions of youth, nervous weakness, early decay, loss of manhood, &c., I will send a recipe that will cure you, FREE OF CHARGE. This great remedy was discovered by a missionary in South America. Send a self-addressed envelope to the Rev. JOSEPH T. INMAN, Station D, Bible House, New York City.

The Markets.

General Produce

BUFFALO, Feb. 11.—Wheat—scring neglected; 1 car red winter at 100c. Corn dull; 2 000 bu old western at 41c. Oats quiet; 1,500 bu mixed at 27c on track. Rye and Barley inactive. Railroad freights unchanged.

DETROIT, Feb. 11.—Breadstuffs—Flour dull but steady. Wheat—market steady; extra, 95¾c; No 1 white, 91c; seller February, 93¾c, asked; seller March, 95¾c bid; seller April, 97¾c bid; seller May, 98¾c; milling No. 1, 96¼c. Receipts, 17,349 bu; shipments, 4,200 bu.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 10.—Flour steady; superfine, $2 25@2 75; extra, $3 00@3 50; Ohio and Indiana family, $4 75@5 50. Wheat—market strong; No. 2 red, 106@106; amber, 106¼; white, 106¾@106¾. Corn firm; steamer, 42@ 43½c; yellow, 42½@44½c; mixed, 43@44. Oats firm; white western, 32½@33c; mixed western, 29@29½c. Rye quiet and firm; western, 53c.

CINCINNATI, Feb. 11.—Four dull. Wheat steady; red and white, 90@93c. Corn quiet at 32@34c. Oats steady at 21½@29c Whisky ready at 102c. Provisions held firmly. Pork $10 00@10 10, the latter for extra heavy. Lard held at $6 75, with $6 85 bid cash; sales at $6 90 seller April. Bulk meats $3 35@4 85@5 10. Bacon at $4 25@5 10@5 50.

MILWAUKEE, Feb. 11.—Wheat—The market is steady, and prices are about the same as yesterday; the noon board closed firm at 98½c for No 1 Milwaukee or No. 1 85½c for No 2 cash and seller February; 89½c seller March; 90¾c for seller April; 94¾c for seller May; 74¾c for No. 3; 67½c for No. 4; 57½c for rejected; receipts, 43,100 bu; shipments, 21,700. Corn—market steady at 30c for No. 2. Oats steady at 23½c for No. 2. Rye steady at 43½c for No 1. Barley firm at 75½c for No. 2.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 11.—Flour unchanged. Wheat higher; No 2 red, 96@96½c cash Corn better and active at 32c cash. Oats held higher; 24c bid cash. Whisky firm at 104c. Pork; jobbing at $10 50. Dry Salt Meats less firm; small lots 20 day clear ribs at $4 75; shoulders, $3 50 March. Bacon higher; clear ribs, $5 45@5 56. Lard quiet; $6 75@6 80 asked. Hogs—active and better; Yorkers and 8-hit barrles, $3 60@3 65; packing, $3 60@3 90; butchers' to fancy heavy, $3 90@4 25; receipts, 2,200 head; shipments, —— head.

CHICAGO, Feb. 11.—Wheat—Market strong but unsettled; No 2 spring, 89¾c cash; 89¾c seller March; 90¾@90¾c seller April. Corn firm and higher at 31¾c cash; 32½c seller April; 30¾c bid seller May. Oats firm and higher; 21¾c cash; 22½c for seller March; 24¾c seller May. Rye firmer at 46c. Barley higher at 76@81c. Pork unsettled, closing lower; $9 75 for cash; $9 80 for seller March; $9 95 for seller April. Lard weak and $6 67½ for seller March; $6 85 seller April. Whisky at 104c. Hogs—receipts, 24,000 head; market steady; packing, $3 85@4 05; light, $3 80@3 95.

NEW YORK, Feb. 11.—Cotton is quiet at 9 11-16c for middling uplands. Flour is quiet; receipts, 20,000 bbls; sales 11,000 bbls; $3 75@5 00 for Round Hoop Ohio; extra, $5 70 @5 85. Rye Flour is reported quiet and unchanged. Corn-Meal is unsettled; Spring quiet and firm; Winter Red shade stronger; White heavy; receipts, 97,000 bush; sales, 10,000 bush; No. 2 Red at 104¾c. Rye is quiet; Western, 60@63c; State, 60@63½c; Canada, 62@63½c. Corn is fairly active quiet; receipts, 102,000 bush; sales, 35,000 bu; 42@42½c for western mixed. Barley—The market is dull to-day; 4-Rowed State, 65c. Oats—Spot lots, 38,000 bush; sales, 19,000 bu; 30@30½c for mixed western; 32@34½c for white do. Pork is reported steady at $10 75. Beef is dull. Lard dull at $7 02½. Butter—26@30. Cheese—8@9½c. Eggs—17@23c. Oats—Whiskey—107½c. Sugar—5⅝@6c. Petroleum—Market at 8¾@9c for crude and 9½c for refined. Coal—Is dull. Leather steady; $1 05@$2 1. Wool—quiet at 47@48c.

TOLEDO, WEDNESDAY MORNING, Feb. 12 — Wheat has been quiet during the past week, and is now quoted at the following prices: next Amber, 95¾c; seller March, 97¾c; extra White Michigan, 96¾c; No. 2 Red Wabash, 95¾c for spot and seller February; 97¾c seller March, and 98¾c seller April; Rejected Red, 82¾c; Western Amber, 90¾c. Corn is dull at 33¾c for Mixed and Yellow; No. 2 seller May. Oats: Rejected, 20½c. Oats—No. 2 at 24½c for spot and 25¼c for seller May. Dressed Hogs at $4 10. Mammoth Clover Seed at $4 25; Prime Medium, $3 95; No. 2 do. $3 65.

Lumber—Market is unchanged. Clear, $40 @6 00; Stock Boards $12 00, and common Boards, $11 00; Cull Boards, $9 00; Code Posts, 16c. Shingles—Prices are steady and the demand moderate. A1 18-inch Shingles, $3 25; No 1 do. $3 00@3 50; No. 2 do, $2 00@2 50 Lath—We quote at $1 94. Hardwood Lumber—Walnut, Log run, 1st and 2nd dry, 2 50 Culls, dry, $25 00@28 00; Merchantable Green 1st and 2nds, $30 00@40 00; Culls, $20 00; Oak ship timber, $20 00@25 00; Common, 1st and 2nds $30 00; Buttermut, 1st and 2nds $30 00; Walnut Flooring, $45 00; Walnut Timber, &c; Hickory Lumber, $32 00; Oak Lumber any size wanted, $15 00; Ash Timber and Boards, $10 00@15 00.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 11.—Breadstuffs—Flour—Market active and firmer; western superfine, $3 00@3 50; do extra, $3 75@4 25; do family, $4 50@5 00. Wheat—Western reported quiet and easy; No. 2 Pennsylvania red, 102½; No 2 winter western, spot and seller February, 100@100¼c; seller March, 107@107¼c; do seller April, 108@108¾c. Corn—Western active and firm; western mixed, spot and seller February, 44